TUESDAY 28 JANUARY 1997

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THE TABLOID Pashion: Rude boys

of Paris



COMMENT

The cost of keeping the Royals afloat



INTERNATIONAL

The bomb suspect who got a movie deal PAGE 9



English hitmen for hire, warns police chief

Crime Correspondent

Up to 20 professional hitmen are operating from the South-East of England and have carried out a number of contract killings, a senior detectives has

told the Independent.
The killers charge from £1,000 to £20,000 per murder and have been used by spurned

lowers as well as gangs.

Scotland Yard has a special Squad in operation to crack ber of men prepared to kill for carry out bits in other parts of cash. David Veness, Scotland the country. Previous assassi-Yard's Assistant Commissioner in charge of specialist operations, said: "We have a genuine fear that there is a greater ca-pacity for [criminals] to gain ac-cess to individuals willing to kill for money. There are worrying signs that there are small groups

for whom this is the main form of crimical activity." He said there was evidence by many "hits" that have yet to

corn at the upsurge in the num-sional killers were being used to nations also suggest that hitmen are being brought in from

> Mr Veness has a pool of 40 detectives from Scotland Yard's Organised Crime Group to help in the inquiry. At least 20 contracts have been carried out, although Mr Veness believes there are almost certain-

be identified as the work of pro-

Most of the killings are understood to be between rival crime gangs, particularly when in dispute over drugs. However, a number of cases have invalved businessmen disposing of rivals or partners and of jilled lovers gaining revenge. Mr Veness said: "The ones

that concern us most are those where it's felt a criminal grouping can with relative impunity resolve its business disputes via

a general climate of criminal dis order rapidly follows." He added: "The other category of mistresses and distressed lovers does not create the same in-

sidious effect." Asked whether the hitmen are being hired for jobs in other parts of the country, he said: "We have examples of move-ment of activity within the UK."

Mr Veness said there was a "resurgence" in hits during the past five years due to greater

greater competition and rivalry between gangs. He estimated there were 10 to 20 contract killers operating in or from the Metropolitan police area (Greater Londoo), being paid from £1,000 to £20,000 a hit. Detectives believe a significant oumber of unsolved murders

ing them to hitmen. In what is believed to be the latest example of a contract

are contract killings but so far

dead io a wood in Highgate, north London, two weeks ago. Brandon Hale, 48. a known heavy gambler, was beaten and theo shot above the left eye. The Scotland Yard inquiry is

hampered by the extreme secreey surrounding the subject of contract killers, who usually bave no connections with their victims.

oo evidence has emerged link-Recent police successes against hitmen include convic- ary 1995. tion of a professional killer

who was jailed for life in March for murdering a car dealer.

Kevin Lane, 26, was paid £100,000 by an unknown underworld cootact to shoot Robert Magill near his home in Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire, in October 1994.

Two men who were paid £20,000 for the coorract killing of the millionaire Donald Urquhart were jailed in Febru-

Killer for hire, page 3

Tories to fight for the flag and wallet

Anthony Bevins Chief Political Correspondent

Patriotic optimism and a tax auction with Labour are to be the twin planks of the Conservative election strategy, the

Cabinet agreed yesterday.

Britain is the best country in the world, ministers agreed: voters should be warned that Labour would throw it away. After the all-day meeting at Chequers, Stephen Dorrell, the Secretary of State for Health, pledged that a new Conservative government would cut the tax burden, which it has not achieved in any of the last four

parliaments.

But with John Major making it absolutely clear that he would go to the election limit of 1 May, barring a Commons defeat on a vote of confidence, the safetyfirst campaign theme was one of continuing to offer opportunity and choice for the

hard-working" classes. Mr Dorrell said there had been an upbeat discussion in which it had been recognised the Conservative Party had built the strongest economy in Europe. The Cabinet, he said. had worked through its ideas on health, education, social security and the economy, "to ensure that Britain continues to be the best country in the world in which to live"

He reported that the Prime Minister's phrase was "one that expresses very well the sense around the Cabinet today".

A more negative message was delivered by William Hague, the Secretary of State for Wales, who said on BBC radio that the Conservatives had beaten the British disease of strikes and inflation during the 1980s and would now offer fresh reforming ideas to meet the big economic challenges of

He added that having created a strong economy, it was "im-portant not to throw that away and that's what's at stake in the coming election".

Mr Hague said: "It's important to continue the change and not go into these blind alleys of not go into these blind alleys of it gives you a better prospect for minimum wages, higher taxes, a job and a better prospect for

QUICKLY

The Government was defeated

as the Commons voted by 273

to 272, a majority of one.

against an amendment tabled by ministers to the Education Bill.

Supporters of James Hanratty, hanged 35 years ago for the A6 murder, insisted yesterday that the

Home Office has had evidence that

proved the 25-year-old was impocent since 1994. Page 4

Hanratty evidence

Government defeat

FreeCas

IT'LL BE ON MAY 112 MYSTIC MAJ-PROBABLY WRONG AS USUAL

Election timetable, page 6 Leading article, page 13

social chapters, selling out in Europe, which is what the Labour Party now represents." In a new development, he said some specific ideas in the manifesto would be revealed in press conferences between now

and 1 May, exposing some of the flesh of Mr Major's plans before the full manifesto itself is published in April. Labour's deputy leader, John Prescott, said: "After 18 years in

power they have run out of steam. They are left scraping the barrel for crackpot ideas which are more about the jockeying for posicion in the Tory leadership than the interests of the country. The Liberal Democrat MP

Menzies Campbell said rightwing experiments and electoral immicks were "no substitute for sound policy".

Giving a press conference at the Barnard Arms, the local pub

for Chequers, Mr Dorrell was asked whether Britain was the best country in the world for the poor and the unemployed. He said: "If you are unemployed in Britain you have a better chance of finding a job than if you are unemployed in any other major

country in Europe. "So the proposition that this is a good place to live because

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increasing your own, and your family's, living standards is one that I think stands up."

Giving a broad sweep of the policies that would be offered under plans to develop ownership, choice and opportunity, Mr Dorrell said there would be a grammar school in every town, expanded choice in the National Health Service and more privatisation.

Having pursued a "reformist" agenda for the first IB years, he said. Mr Major intended to continue that agenda in the Conservatives' fifth term of office.

Earlier, as the long-drawn election campaign continued, Labour threatened to force the writ for the Wirral South by-election, so that it could be held on 27 February.

The Conservatives immediately replied by saying they would fulfil their promise to move the writ themselves within the next week, so that the byelection would be called either for 27 February or 6 March.

Given the disastrous result which is expected in that preelection poll, with the Conser-vatives losing the seat to Labour on all the forecasts, the delay in a general election until May is probably based on the hope that the Wirral South débacle will

have been forgotten by May. Yesterday's meeting at Chequers began with a briefing by the Conservative Party chair-man, Brian Mawhinney, on the mechanics of the election camign. He said the Tories would build on the improved standards they had already achieved, and be added: "This government has been an education standardsfocused government. We are go-ing to build on that."

Other subjects discussed dur-ing the day included plans for housing, the National Lottery, and pensions.

A Conservative Party source said no government had lost an election when the tide of ideas was flowing in its favour, and after five hours of discussion among Cabinet ministers, it was clear the party had the ideas to meet the economic challenges of the 21st century.

The Tabloid

Arts Reviews 19

Health 10,11

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Twenty years late,

Biko's killers confess

Mary Braid Johannesburg

Twenty years after the death in

detention of the black coosciousness leader, Steve Biko, five former security policemen have confessed to being involved in his murder.

Biko, arguably the antiapartheid movement's most famous martyr and the bero of Sir Richard Attenborough's 1987 movie Cry Freedom, died in police custody on 12 September 1977, aged 31.

In the 1970s Biko's radical black pride message set the townships alight and changed the course of the liberation movement. After the last of his many arrests it is widely accepted that he was was beaten and tortured during interrogations at security police beadquarrers in Port Elizabeth. before being transported in the back of a landrover, naked and fatally injured, 700 miles to Pretoria, where he finally died.

medical assistance and that a police cover-up followed. The cruelty and brutality of the apartheid regime was encapso-

It is claimed he was denied

of Jimmy Kruger, then justice minister. "His death leaves me cold," he said.

Despite the best efforts of the Biko family's counsel, led by Sidney Kentridge QC and George Bizos, President Nelson Mandela's long-time legal ad-viser, an inquest in the late 1980s found no one was to

blame for his death. The five former policemen all former officers at Port Elizabeth - are reported to be finalising an amnesty application in connection with Biko's death to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC), the body charged with healing South Africa by exposing its violent past and laying the founda-tions for a better future.

A TRC spokeswoman last night confirmed South African newspaper reports of the joint amnesty application. The break-through on the Biko case represents one of the TRC's greatest coups and strengthens its claim to be a better vehicle than the criminal courts for

dealing with the past. The application however will almost certainly anger Biko's family. Yesterday Biko's eldest lated in the infamous response 'wo Nkosinathi, 26, said the fam-

bad discussed the matter.

But last year Biko's widow. Ntiski, backed by the Azanian People's Organisation (Azpo). which claims to be the true carrier of the Biko torch, challenged the legitimacy of the TRC in the Constitutional Court.

They argued the TRC was an instrument of political expediency and that its amnesty pow-ers robbed victims' families of justice. A successful application for amnesty, granted to those who freely confess to past atrocities if they can prove political motivation, bars any future criminal charges or civil claims

against perpetrators.

The family lost their challenge when the 10 constitutional court judges ruled that without the offer of amnesty there would be a disincentive to tell the truth.

Notion divided, page



Michael Grade says goodbye to television

Marianne Macdonald Media Correspondent

Michael Grade, Channel 4's chief executive since 1988, is to leave the company and television altogether, it was announced last night.

In a statement which shocked the industry, the board of Chan-nel 4 revealed that Mr Grade would leave the company later

this vear. It did not, however, elaborate on Mr Grade's plans, although it appeared that he was inlending to pursue wider husiness interests. He is a director of VCI, a video publishing company, and a non-executive di-

rector of First Leisure. Famous for his cigars and braces, the former controller of BBC1 was described by the Daily Mail as the country's "pornographer in chief" after Channel 4 commissioned a series of risqué late night shows including Eurotrash, Red Light Zone and programmes for gay

He has campaigned vocally, and successfully, to end the "funding formula" by which Channel 4 is forced to pay a buge proportion of its profits to the ITV companies, and also new post of man last year fought off the spectre to hold the fort.

of privatisation Grade has attracted criticism as well for popularising the channel by buying in American imported shows such as Friends to push up

ratings. In 1992 he stirred up controversy by speaking out against the new "pseudo-Leninist style of the BBC" in the McTaggart Lecture, the centrepiece of the Edinburgh television festival.

Sir Michael Bishop, chairman Channel 4, said last night: "Michael Grade has told me he wishes to leave the television industry and pursue his other business interests.

"Since 1988, Michael has directed Channel 4 with skill, determination and style. He has successfully steered the channel through its most testing period of transition in selling its own airtime, sustaining and enhancing the channel's unique programme remit and campaigning relentlessly on behalf of the company."

Mr Grade has agreed terms for his departure and has given legal undertakings that be will not compete with the channel in his new job.

David Scott, the finance director was promoted to the new post of managing director

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significant shorts

'Aladdin's cave' police raids net eight robbery suspects

Detectives investigating a multi-million pound string of art hurglaries were yesterday questioning eight suspects following a series of dawn raids across central London.

The men were arrested following e four-month inquiry into at least 40 hurgiaries at galleries and private homes in Kensington, Notting Hill and Hampstead over the past three years.

The investigation, code-named Operation Schwellen, started last September when a raid on the north London premises of a suspected middleman uncovered e £3m "Aleddin's cave" of rare stolen books, paintings, statues and other antiques. That 1,500-item haul included five Dutch masters, thought to have been snatched

from a Bond Street gallery, together worth £500,000.

A learn of 15 officers from Scotland Yard's Central London Crime Squad tracked the gang responsible for the robberies, which took place when the target properties were unoccupied and which used vans or lorries to carry off objets d'art and furniture. More than 50 officers took part in yesterday's raids, and the suspects are being interviewed at Charing Cross police stetion.

Jojo Moyes

E.coli toll rises to 18

The death toll in the Scottish food-poisoning outhreak has risen to 18 after an 86-year-old woman succumbed to the infection.

Health officials confirmed last night that a woman from the Wishaw area, who was admitted to Monklands Hospital, Airdrie, on 9 December with E. coli 0157 infection, died on Friday.

The total number of fatalities is now almost equal to the worst-known outbreak of the infection, when 19 pensioners died in 1985 at an old people's home in Canada.

Germany fears first v-CJD death

German doctors are to perform a post-mortem on a 41-year-old woman whom they suspect may have died from the "new variant" form of the hrain disorder Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (CJD), which has been linked to mad-cow disease, or BSE.

If the case is confirmed, then the woman would be the first known victim of v-CJD in Germany. A growing body of evidence has linked the new variant to exposure to BSE-infected products almost certainly food. The test on the woman follows the announcement last week of the death of a cow, born to an animal imported from Britain, in the fifth case of BSE reported in Germany, which has already ordered the slaughter of more than 5,000 cattle imported from Britain and Switzerland. Charles Arthur

Barbie takes her crown at last



Barbie, the 37-year-old doll, has been named toy of the year for the first time in her history.

The British Association of Toy Retailers said the Mattel doll, which also won the Doll of the Year and Best Girls' Toy titles, had now achieved cult status. Andrea Bergstein, a senior product manager at Mattel said; "[Barbie has] always heen top of the trends. She has always provided girls with what they want.

The boys' toy of the year was
Barbie's long-time rival, Hasbro's Action Man - which was toy of the year in 1966. Buzz Lightyear, the Christmas sell-out action doll from the film Toy Story, was awarded a new title, the Pimpernel Award, for being highly clusive - like his Scarlet namesake.

Howard challenges Bulger ruling

The Home Secretary, Michael Howard, yesterday began a challenge in the House of Lords to a Court of Appeal ruling that his decision to impose a minimum 15-year sentence on the 10-year-old killers of the toddler James Bulger was unlawful. The judgment last July ruled ly took into account public petitions call for Robert Thompson and Jon Venahles to be locked up for life. But yesterday David Pannick QC told five Law Lords that Mr Howard had also read reports about the uphringing of Thompson and appeals about the lesser role in the murder of Venahles, before reaching his decision. Thompson and Venables abducted James, 2, from a shopping precinct in Merseyside, and murdered him on an isolated railway line in Walton, Liverpool, on 12 February 1993.

Hockney's friends help the deaf

David Hockney, the artist who confesses to heing mad about dogs. has donated a famous print of his canine hest friends Stanley and Boodgie to a charity for deafness.

Hearing Dogs for the Deaf, which trains dogs to alert a deaf person by touch and to guide them to a sound, contacted Hockney last year asking for his support, and he gave the charity permission to print 1,000 copies of the Dachshund sketch. Hockney himself is now almost completely deaf. Recent self-portraits show his face to he uncharacteristically glum, and in each an ear has been omitted. The prints are being sold for £10; anyone interested in purchasing

one should contact Heather Shute on 01993-831909 (evenings).

THE INDEPENDENT ABROAD

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BACK ESSUES Back saves of the independent are analytic form Historic Newspapers, telephone 01958 840370

AUNTIES UNITED: Journalists Eve Pollard, Clare Rayner and Anne Robinson among friends and former colleagues at a memorial service to the agony aunt Marjorie Proops. The Mirror's plain-speaking columnist died in November, aged 85. after a near lifetime on the staff. Speakers at the service at St Bride's In central London yesterday included Gerald Kaufman MP and a former Mirror Photograph: PA colleague, Mike Molloy.

Media blamed as Ireland's first woman cabinet minister quits

aire Geoghegan-Quinn, Ireland's first woman cabinet minister since Independence in 1921, yes-I V I terday stunned the Dail by abandoning her high-flying political career, hlaming media intrusions Into the lives of har children.

The woman many expected would become Ireland's first woman Taolseach was runner-up to Bertie Ahem in the battle to lead Ireland's largest party, Fianne Fail, aftar the November resignation in 1994 of Albart

Her decision not to run in this year's general election is a major blow to the Fianna Fail front bench, which relied heavily on her polished stateswoman's delivery

In a surprise statement she complained at "the increasing tendency to regard as fair game" other mem-bers of a politician's family "as if all of them had put themselves up for election".

The final straw eppears to have been recent tabloid reporting of her 17-year-old son's involvement in a school fracas. "If his mother had been a homemaker, an architect or a businesswoman, this simply would not have been happened," sha added.

Why I like the

trade unions.

by BA chief

Heving been exposed as a fre-

Robert Ayling, the chief executive

of British Airways, Is now cuddling

Mr Ayling has put his name to

promotional material published by

the Amalgamated Engineering and

Electrical Union. His imprimatur

hooklet issued to potential inward

Europe, in an attempt to allay their

fears about British trade unionism.

The BA chief anthuses: "We

have worked with the AFFU for

many years and over that time

have developed positiva relation-

ships. The AEEU well understands

the benefits flowing from business

success and we are looking for-

ward to working together on the

of the company's amployees, are

Avling is considering hiving off the

angineering intarests into a seper-

ate company and inviting outside

Tha enginers at at BA, like many

difficult challenges now facing

British Airways Engineering.

facing an uncertain future. Mr

investors to take e share.

investors from the Far East end

has been granted to an AEEU

quent luncher with Tony Blair.

up to the union movement.

invariably immaculate Mrs Geoghegan-Quinn, 46, Is at least as fluent in Irish, her first language. A best-selling novellst, she is also a broadcaster on the recently-established Irish languaga TV service, Teilifis ne Gaeilge. She was e prominent figure in the Northern Ireland

peace process in the run-up to tha 1993 Downing Street Her most recent cabinet post was at the justice de-

partment, where, in a famous confrontation she savaged the outgoing attorney-general, Harry Whelehan, e key figure in an extradition scandal, moments before he was to receive saals of office as head of tha High Court from the State President, Mary Rohinson. Daughter of a Flanna Fail politician, John Geoghegan,

she inherited her Galway West seat in 1975 after a byelection caused by his death.

Her Dail seat had been held by the smallest of margins in recent elections but this is not thought to have affected her decision. Her party may yet woo her as a candidate for the presidency, if Mrs Robinson decides egainst seeking re-election when her seven-year term ends in November. Alan Murdoch

Dissident goes back to Moscow

Natan Sharansky returned to Moscow as an honoured Israell minister yesterday, 10 years after he was freed from a KGB jail and turned over to the West in one of the most dramatic prisoner swaps of the Cold War.

Sharansky, a Soviet-era dissident who served nine years on charges of spying for Washington, was received with honours by Mayor Yuri Luzhkov in the grandaur of Moscow town hall a far cry from the squalor of the KGB prison where he spent his last Moscow days.

"As a former Muscovite, forced to leave Moscow, I return as a minister of Isreel to a city of free peopla," he said aftar signing a trada agreement.

Sharansky said he would visit old friends who had joined him in human rights demonstrations in the 1970s. Todey ha is scheduled to visit the Lefortovo prison where he was held after his arrest.

He was made e minister in Beniamin Netanyahu's government aftar tha auccess of his Yisreel ba-Aliya (Israel of Immigration) party in Isreel's elections last Mey.

HEALTH

Eye test cost puts over-60s at risk of blindness

More than half a million people aged 60 and over risk losing their sight because they cannot afford eye tests, according to a report from the Royal National Institute for the Blind.

In eddition, it revealed there was widespread confusion over who qualified for exemptions to eye test charges, and said this was

qualified for exemptions to eye test charges, and said this was putting people off making appointments. Two out of five people who were exempt from eye test fees thought they had to pay.

As a result, potentially hlinding eye conditions like glaucoma and diabetic retinopathy, which can be treated if spotted early, were going undiagnosed. More than a quarter of all people aged 60 or over have not had an eye test in the last two years, the minimum recommended period for that age group. The RNIB called for free recommended period for that age group. The RNIB called for free eye tests for everyone aged 60 and over, and other high risk groups.

Losing Sight of Blindness, £5, RNIB Customer Services. Tel: 0345 023153.

MEDIA

Branson's profile inflated

A new sorvey confirms what every newspaper reader in the country A new survey commins what every newspaper reader in the country already suspected: Richard Branson has been generating more headlines and column inches than any other British celebrity.

For the past three months the Virgin tycoon has been the subject of more press attention than Labour leader Tony Blair, the Princess of Wales and even the Spice Girls, according to the latest constants.

quarterly report from the newspaper cuttings service Durrants.

In recent weeks, the 46-year-old multi-millionaire has raised his media profile to new heights through his abortive round-the-world balloon flight. Undaunted by the failure of that enterprise, be grabbed the headlines again by jetting off to New York
with Chris Evans in a bld to

sign the DJ for Virgin Radio. Durrants, which scans nearly 200,000 newspaper and magazine cuttings a year, is forecasting that Sinn Fein leader Gerry Adams, Referendum Party leader and financier Sir James Goldsmith and Evita composer Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber will feature prominently in its next quarterly survey. Rob Brown



Reform to curb paedophiles

A new criminal offence to deter paedophiles from seeking or accepting work with children was proposed in a Government consultation paper yesterday. Ministers seek views on the details of the offence, such as the age of the children who should be protected, the jobs and activities which should be covered, how the offence should be formulated and the effect on employers and voluntary organisations.

The paper proposes that the offence carry a maximum penalty of six months' imprisonment or a £5,000 fine.

Sex Offenders: A Ban on Working with Children, from Betty Moxon, Sentencing and Offenders Unit, Horne Office, Queen Anne's Gate, London SW1H 9AT. Patricia Wynn Davies

ENVIRONMENT

Warning on global warming

Britain's claim to be a world leader in tackling global warming may turn into hot air unless ministers devise new energy policies; Government environmental experts warned yesterday. Coal, oil, and gas, which produce the greenhouse gases causing climate change, need to be taxed to reflect their threat to the environment, while non-polluting energy sources such as wind turbines and solar cells need support, said the five-member Panel on Sustainable Development, in its annual report.

The panel called for the Government to end subsidies which

encourage environmental damage and to scrap remaining tax incentives for company car use. It also advocates a tax on

development on green-field sites.

British Government Panel on Sustainable Development Third Report, free from the Department of the Environment. Tel: 0181 691 9191, quoting ref 96EP229. Nicholas Schoon

PRISONS

Chronic overcrowding revealed

Service, in a parliamentary written answer.

Six of Britain's prisons are now holding more than one and a half times the number of prisoners than they were designed to hold, according to official figures, which point to a huge imhalance, with some jails hursting at the seams while others have plenty of space. Shrewsbury prison is revealed as the most overcrowded jail in England and Wales. With 315 prisoners instead of 176, it has 79 per cent more inmates than its certified normal accommodation level (CNA). The prisons worst affected by the rapidly escalating jail population – now at a record 60,000 – are old Victorian jails in built-up areas, said Richard Tilt, Director General of the Prison

in the first half of 1996



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Bob Ayling: 'Positive

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the British Airline Pilots' Associa-

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Transport and Ganerel Workers'

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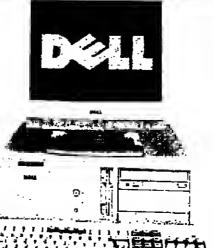
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You get a nice .38 revolver ... snub-nosed, very powerful. It can rip right through people. You take some nice nickel- and lead-tipped bullets. They leave nice clean holes 9



Ian Beale, played by Adam Woodyall in the BBC's EastEnders, lies in a pool of blood after being gunned down

Contract killer for hire: price from £ $1.00\bar{0}$ upwards

Jason Bennetto Crime Correspondent

In the semi-darkness of an early January morning, the body of Brandon Hale was discovered by a woman walking her dog. The 48-year-old gambler was lying face up in woods in north London. Above his left eye was a neat hole made by a single bullet.

Mr Hale's death, which happened two weeks ago, is be-lieved to be the latest murder carried out by a group of professional criminals prepared

to kill for cash. David Veness, Scotland Yard's Assistant Commissioner in charge of specialist operations, has revealed to The Independent that the police believe that up to 20 hitmen - possibly more - are operating from the south east of England.

The Metropolitan Police's Organised Crime Group are investigating the contract killers who hire out their services from £1,000 to £20,000 per

Part of the reason for the up-surge is the greater availability of handguns. Increased rivalry hetween traditional crime gangs, particularly over drug deals, has also led to a rash

A north London crime fam-

But one of the greatest problems the police face in convicting the professional hitmen, and in a small number of cases women, is the secrecy and unpredictability surrounding the criminals involved.

Contract killers are usually hired hecause they have no direct links with their chosen victim and are therefore unlikely to be traced back to their high street. employer. Mr Urquhart, 55, a millionemployer.

contacts exists in which contract walking with his girlfriend in killers become known to a January 1993 when Graeme small group of people. In addition professional killers are three shots from a pistol into his feared by other criminals and potential police informers.

The stcreotypical image of deals discussed in the back rooms of dingy pubs still holds true for some jobs, but discussions are more likely to take place in greater secrecy and in more salubrious surroundings.

Interviews with hitmen are rare. However in Tony Thompson's book Gangland Britain, a man named "Max", who claims he is a contract killer, said he charged about £10,000 for each job. "It's quite a lot, but people will do it for a lot less than that nowadays. I mean, you can go down the road and get some coke-head teenager to do it for

extreme violence, has also been do it properly?" When asked linked to the space of murders, about what weapons he usedhe replied: "You get a nice thirtyeight revolver, snub-nosed, it's very small, very compact, very powerful. It'll rip through pcople. You get some nice nickeland lead-tipped hullets ... they leave nice clean holes."

An example of a traditional hit was the £20,000 contract killing of Donald Urquhart who was shot dead in a London

An underground network of aire husinessman, had been West ran up to him and fired head before escaping on a motorcycle.

West was jailed for life. It latcr emerged that he had climbed the ladder of south London's underworld from club bouncer, deht collecting and eventupromotion to contract killer.

Police suspect that at least three husinessmen, who have never been brought to court, were involved in the killing. Contract killers are some-

times brought in from outside cities to work in areas where they are unknown to the police and criminals. In one of the most extraordinary cases, two men hired a Maori hitwoman from New Zealand for £7,000 ily, which has a reputation for five hundred quid, but will he to murder a London roofing dead to her than alive.

Caught up in a deadly business

on a west London street. West, a former builder, was



Ta Rangimeria Ngarimu, Britain's first known woman contract klier, was jailed for life in December 1994 for shooting dead a hospital petient four times in the head and body for \$7,000.

Two men hired the Maori hit-

woman to murder a London roofing contractor with whom they had a business feud. Te Rangimaria Ngarimu, 27, killed Graeme Woodhatch while he was having treatment in the Royal Free Hospitel in north London. The two men who had hired her were giv-

contractor with whom they had

a husiness feud. Te Rangimaria

Ngarimu, 27, was jailed for life

in December 1994 for shooting

her victim four times in the

a factor behind hiring a killer. In July last year the wife of a

private detective was sentenced

to life imprisonment for hiring

a hitman to beat her husband

to death at their home in

to have taken out a contract on

her husband, Barry, 44, with

contacts in the Johannesburg

affair in South Africa and knew

her husband was worth more

Ethel Trigwell, 43, was said

Mrs Trigwell was having an

Walmley, Sutton Coldfield.

Sex as well as money can be

head and body.

underworld.



Donald Urquhart was killed by Brandon Hale, aged 48, who was known to be a heavy gambler, is believed to be one Graeme West for £18,000 in December 1994 as ha walked with his girlfriend, Pam tampithone (with whom he is pictured above), of the latest victims of contract

He was found shot dead in a wood in highgate, north London,

two weeks ago.
He had been beaten as well as being shot above the eye.
Detectives believe that Mr Hale, who had ben a prolific gambler and often visited casiled for life after he shot Mr Urguhart three times in the head before fleeing on a motorbike. He spent four months planning the hit, but was caught after he told a friend, who informed the pofice. He is believed to have been hired by a business rival of Mr Urquhart. nos in the West End of London, may have been killed over a row

Dose for dead baby '100 times too much'

A premature baby died after a adult." Coroner Stanley Hoopjunior doctor gave her more than 100 times the required dose of morphine, an inquest less", said her case notes had dose of morphine, an inquest was told yesterday.

Rotherham Coroners Court errors. was told that Louise Wood was given a massive overdose after developing hreathing difficulties at Rotherham District General Hospital last year.

Lynda Wood, 36, of Thrybergh, Rotherham, South Yorks, gave hirth to twins Natalie and Louise in September 1995. The girls were taken as a matter of routine to the neo-natal intensive-care unit, but Louise developed hreathing difficulties when she was just 24 hours old.

The infant suffered a poeumo thorax - air escaping from the lungs into her chest cavity and doctors decided to apply a chest drain.

The inquest heard that registrar Dr Vivian Michael decided to sedate Louise with morphine to relax her muscles and allow the process to be car-

A baby should be given 10 mi-crograms of morphine per kilo-gram body weight - Louise, weighing 1.6kg, should have been injected with 16 micro-

The inquest heard that Senior House Officer Dr Hilary Evans told Dr Michael the correct dosage but then miscalculated and drew up 100 times the dose into two phials.

Paediatrician Dr John Puntis, who was called in by the coroner to review the medical case notes, said: "Dr Evans was a very new, very junior doctor, who had moved into the neo-natal ward, where drug doses would be completely unfamiliar and where the envi-ronment would be stressful.

One would expect her to be that would be given to an contained "seriously wrong

He continued: "The notes are satisfactory, at least until the child was given a dose of morphine. which I will he hearing was 100 times what was

appropriate."
Medical staff tried to counteract the morphine overdose with Naloxone, but attempts to resuscitate were unsuccessful.

Pathologist Professor Michael Green found the cause of death to be poisoning by morphine. Toxicologist Dr Robert For-

rest, who tested a blood sample. found: "The concentrations of morphine in the blood sample are extremely high and are entirely compatible with a potentially fatal overdose."

Pathologist Prof Michael Green told the hearing: "I regard this as an unnatural death."

No case histories exist on the effects of morphine overdoses on babies and Prof Green said he could not be certain "beyond reasonable doubt that Louise had not died as a result of her weak lungs.

But he added: "The most likely cause of death in poisoning by morphine. It is a high prohability." Criminal courts require hevond reasonable doubt to be established as a cause of death; an inquest needs it only to be probability on the balance of evidence.

Prof Green said the only comparison to be drawn was with heroin abusers who "die on the needle" two to seven minutes after overdosing.
The overdose causes the

heart and lungs to fail in adults and this would have happened familiar with the kind of dose in the case of Louise. The inquest continues.

And now for the eleventh commandment: Mea culpa

Religious Affairs Correspondent

Fundamentalist believers in The Independent, who hold that every word of the newspaper's text is literally true, were shocked yesterday by the discovery that the newspaper had printed the 10 commandments

Faxes and emails arrived pointing out that the list of com-mandments printed with an article on page two had missed out the fourth: "Remember the Sabbath Day, and keep it holy." It had also broken the tenth Commandment into two. Most of the comments came from An-

glican priests and were surprisingly good-natured considering that the faulty list of commandments had appeared in a story about the supposed ignorance of Anglican clergy. A telephone poll had found that many of them could not recite all ten commandments off the top of their heads.

Part of the problem derives from the fact that there are a lot more than ten specific com-mandments in the list of prohibitions and exhortations which God gave to Moses on Mount Sinai, and there are two traditional ways of organising them. The Roman Catholic Church runs the first

two together, so that the prohibition against the worship of graven images becomes part of the first commandment ("You shall have no other gods before

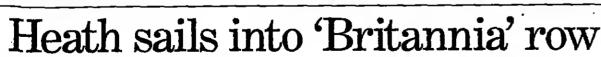
Most Protestant churches,

on the other hand, leave those two commandments separate. and run together the closing prohibitions against coveting various forms of your neighbour's property: his ox, his slaves, and his wife. This has the advantage of making it clear how important it is not to worship graven images. The Catholic arrangement, on the other hand, allows them to stress the fact that coveting

your neighbour's wife is not quite the same sin as coveting

Both schemes, however, pre serve a separate command ment, the sixth, against adultery, and both print the fourth: "Remember the Sahbath day, to keep it holy.", as does the lew ish arrangment, from which all other derive.

The commandment disappeared from the Independent's list yesterday because of a less than authoritative reference book. However, in view of the obvious difficulties of squeezing all these prohibitions down into ten, it is clearly time to expand



Colin Brown Chief Political Correspondent

Sir Edward Heath fired a broadside yesterday at the Government's handling of the de-cision to huild a £60m replacement for the Royal Yacht Britannia, accusing ministers of "dragging the Queen"

into the election campaign. Ministers were kept on the defensive by his outhurst as senior backbench Tory MPs privately joined the former prime minister in criticising the Government, although there was no be an honourable party and I do

suggestion of hack-tracking not believe the actions which nia in the election manifesto, over the decision. Sir Edward, have been taken are honourable Lord St John of Fawsley, sai a former international yachtsman, accused ministers of acting in a manner which was "not honourable" for failing to reach a consensus with Labour before announcing the decision to provide £60m in taxpayers' money

for the yacht. The attempt to wrong-foot Labour by announcing the de-cision had produced a "mess" and it should have been left until after the election. "The Conservative Party above all must ones," he said on BBC radio. "As it is, it has exposed us in

the election campaign of being up to trickery in what we are doing about the royal yacht. We are open to the accusation that we are constantly emphasising, that not a penny more than the budget must be spent, and accusing the Labour Party and our opponents of being reckless with their money.

Sir Edward said it would be a mistake for the Tories to inchide a pledge to fund Britan-

Lord St John of Fawsley said it was "absolutely right" that Bri-tannia's cost should be met from public funds. But he had great sympathy with the Queen over her reported dismay at being drawn into the political

campaigning. Labour's deputy leader, John Prescott, reaffirmed there would be no public money available for Britannia - in the first two years of any Labour government.

David Aaronovitch, page 6 Donald Macintyre, page 15







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Crime Correspondent

Supporters of James Hanratty, hanged 35 years ago for the A6 murder, insisted yesterday that the Home Office has had evidence since 1994 that proved the 25-year-old was innocent.

As The Independent disclosed yesterday official inquiries are understood to have concluded

is poised to refer the case to the Court of Appeal.

The Home Office yesterday confirmed that an announcement was due within the next eight weeks. But campaigners helieve the case has been dragged out far too long.

Hanratty, a petty criminal, was hanged at Bedford jail in that Hanratty was wrongly April 1962 after being convict-

Bedfordshire in 1961.

raping Gregsten's girlfriend, were dealt with much more Valerie Storie, and shooting speedily." Mr Woffinden added her, leaving her paralysed.

A 400-page submission arguing for the case to be referred to the Court of Appeal was sub-1994. Boh Woffinden, who was

hanged for murder. Michael ed of shooting a government sciHoward, the Home Secretary. is project to refer the great the grea Deadman's Hill, on the A6 in the Hanratty case and who is at all that James Hanratty would not be convicted if he writing a book on it, said: "We He was also found guilty of would all wish that these things faced a trial today." However he warned: "I am speedily." Mr Woffinden added not confident that the Home Of-

fice or ministers will automatthat the evidence against the ically reach the right decision." conviction was "overwhelm-Scotland Yard completed an ing". It included details of ali-18-month inquiry into the case his placing Hanratty hundreds mitted to the Home Office in of miles from the murder scene. last year, which is understood Geoffrey Bindman, the so- to have concluded Hanratty

Hanratty wrote to his family

on the eve of his execution insisting that he was innocent and asking them to clear his name. Since then his family has led a campaign to clear him. His late father, James, lohhied MPs, and now Hanratty's mother Mary and three brothers are hoping their years of fighting clear his name have paid off.

Another former criminal, Peter Alphon, has been accused of the murder. Mr Alphon has denied he was the killer, despite earlier reported confessions.

A Home Office spokes-woman said yesterday: "We are considering the case but we don't have a date ... We do, however, hope it will be soon. We would like to see this case, and others that are being considered, to be concluded before

the new Criminal Case Review Commission comes into force."

The independent commission, which will take over the role of deciding which cases of alleged miscarriage of justice should go to appeal, is due to take over on 31 March

Other cases being reviewed include that of Derek Bentley, who was hanged on January 28 1953, for the murder of a police

The news from Swampy and Animal: We shall not be moved

Louise Jury

Rags of blankets hang like flags at half mast from the trees which were once protesters' homes.

As workmen hacked the branches from the giant oak whose misfortune it is to stand on the route of the planned A30 dual carriageway in Devon, under its roots the last five demonstrators on the site scattered deep into the tunnels.

The conflict at Fairmile, the last of the three protest camps along the road-improvement scheme, had reached a stalemate yesterday.

At the weekend, the Fairmile Five issued their demands which included a plea for a new inquiry into the project. Under-sheriff Trevor Coleman rejected the demands, saying that they were totally unrealistic. Yesterday everyone seemed re-signed to sitting it out.

Simon Barnett, the deputy under-sheriff for the eviction, said that it could be days, even weeks, before the site was clear. But he added: "it would be in everybody's interests if they came out now. Their lives are in extreme danger".

eviction tunnellers. The eightman specialist team is advancing foot-by-foot in pursuit of Swampy, Welsh John, Ian, Dave and the only woman, Animal. The work is slow.

"The earth is like sand, it's very fragile," Mr Barnett said. "The sharing up done by the protesters is very poor. They have used rotten timbers ... It's a very bad job indeed."

The tunnellers have progressed about 20ft. Yesterday they hroke through a second steel-reinforced wooden door and then a third, which had blocked the way to where several tunnels branch off the main shaft. But now the five protesters have split up inside, leaving the workmen to ponder the extent of the labyrinth dug

in the last two years.

Outside the barbed wire and fencing which guards the tunnel entrance, two dozen more supporters play the mandolin, the penny whistle and the didgeridoo with occasional hursts of drumming, like a defiant warning to the 120 security guards and 50 police that the fight is not over yet.

A local man had volunteered It is a danger shared by the as official observer for the en- form and dropped pieces to the



Holding out: Swampy, foreground, and one of his fellow protestors against the A30 road scheme in the tunnel network at Fairmile, Devon

Friends of the Earth, although he was not a member, and was photographing workmen as they sawed up a treetop plat-

ground. There are fears that a hadger sett has heen disturbed by the process. But he said: They're much more careful when you have the camera on

Villagers treat the scene like we don't see it we can hear the part of n good day out. They come walking their dogs, bring-ing their children and grandchildren. Their feelings are mixed Bridget Willsman, of nearby Cadhay, in her fifties, youngsters are doing but there said: "I think the protesters are brilliant. It's such a shame to see ple who have concerns about the trees coming down and

what they believe in. But we do need the road very much. The old one so dangerous. There's ful for the supplies but says even moving the big machinery in to transform the rich red Devon

Barrie Clement

A six-year-old hattle between

the Ford motor company and

union leaders over alleged

racism in recruitment ended

settlement vesterday.

company sources.

in a £100.000 out-of-court

As part of the deal, seven

black and Asian workers who

were denied jobs as Ford lorry

drivers shared £70,000t in com-

pensation, according to

The agreement, struck on the

es were about to start, also in-

workers at the company.

Labour Editor

ople should make a stand for the traditional or conventional approach has failed."

ambulances." Penny, a nurse from Exeter. came bearing food. "It's my way of giving support," she said. "I'm too old to be doing what these are probably a lot of local peowhat is going on here. I feel that

Ford pays truckers £10,000

as race battle comes to end

an accident every weekend. If without the external sustenance soil into the new road.

they would still be there. "Where there's a will there's a way," she said.

The demonstrators sense that their campaign is now in its dy-ing days, that it is a question of when, not whether, the final protesters will be brought from their cramped underground home for almost inevitable arrest. Then there will be nothing left to stop the contractors But the resolute handful remaining will refuse to budge until that day. "We're here." said Tabs. "We can't think about any-

Photograph: Mark Clark/Apex

mc

thing else at the moment." Radical environmental protesters are hoping the site of Manchester airport's proposed second runway will become the venue for the next major direct action against construction projects which harm the environment. About a dozen have already taken to the trees on land to be covered by the runway.

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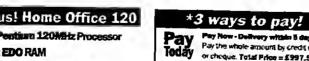
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Cellmate 'was told of family killing'

A father chose the cloest of his wife was killed and Mr Johnson two sons to murder his wife bc- told the court yesterday: "I cause he was the biggest, a court was told yesterday.

David Howells told a cellmate he had promised to buy his I just kept pestering him to tell teenage sons, Glenn and John, jet skis and take them on a cruise after they killed their mother. Eve. according to convicted hurglar Barry Johnson. Johnson told Leeds Crown Court that Mr Howells, 48, discussed Mrs Howells' murder after drinking alcohol in their cell

when they were on remand. The teacher was hludgeoned to death at her home in Huddenstield, West Yorkshire, in August, 1995. Mr Howells, John, 15. and Glenn, 17. deny her

David Howells was playing darts two miles away when his

In answer to allegations about the recruitment system, the company has agreed that outside independent specialists will help in the assessment and training procedures. The company has also agreed that it's "ethnic monitoring" system will be extended to the truck

Bob Purkiss, equality officer at the Transport and General Workers' Union, which backed day that industrial tribunal casthe seven who brought the case, said he was "very happy" with the deal. "We have reached a volves new selection procedures for the £30,000 a year jobs - the full agreement with the comhighest paid among manual pany and it is now incumbent on everyone to implement it," he

said if you weren't there, who

did it?" David said well, who

else was there? Think about it."

mc. He said that it was his two

children. He said he decided to

get Glenn to do it because he

was the biggest.
"He said he wasn't bothered

how it was done - just to make

it look as though it was a hur-

legedly murdered Mrs Howells.

48, because she controlled their

lives and they stood to inherit

her substantial estate. The court

The case continues

friend.

The three defendants al-

While some 45 per cent of workers at Ford's Dagenham He argued that Ford was plant are black or Asian, less not among the worst transthan two per cent of the 300 emgressors when it came to disployees of the truck fleet, also crimination. "Look at the

based at the Essex complex, hanks, look at the City, where has reduced the number of come from the ethnic are the black people there?" he

A spokeswoman for Ford conceded that it would be many years before the ethnic mix of lorry drivers would reflect the composition of the main factories at Dagenham because there was a very low labour turnover. Ford had been accused of ac-

quiescing in a system of re-cruitment which effectively handed jobs down from father to son, thus excluding ethnic minorities. The truck drivers are generally regarded as the most industrially powerful group of workers in Ford. Because they deliver Ford parts from plant to plant throughout Europe, they can bring the whole operation to a halt with-

That power has increased in recent years as the "just-in-time" principle of production we hicle production at the Merseyside plant.

components kept at each indi-The truck drivers have been

highly critical of the TGWU,

their own union, and have voted to join the rival United Road Transport Union. Mr Purkiss was at pains however to point out that the trihunal cases were taken against the company not the truck

■ Jack Nasser, chairman of Ford of Europe, has agreed to meet Ian McCartney, Labour's chief employment spokesman and other MPs to discuss the

plan to shed 1,300 jobs from Ford's Halewood plant. Mr Nasser confirmed that he had met Ian Lang president of the Board of Trade, to ask whether grants would be available to pave the way for fresh

DAILY POEM

Husband and Wife

By Ian McMillan

We had to move, you see, to be near the husband's work. Literally, the husband's work has taken him all over the place.

I am happy though enough. I can sit at the window and see blackbirds, clouds.

The husband's work, you see, we have to move with it. This times we moved into the kitchen. last time it was into the shed.

He calls his thoughts 'A letter from head office' The husband bends over his work making it scream.

had earlier been told that Mr This poem comes from Ian McMillan's collection Dad, The Don-Howells had found out about his key's On Fire (Carcanet). The former stand-up comedian and wife's 12-year affair with his best tennis hall packer will be reading in the Voice Box at the Royal Festival Hall tonight at 7.30pm.





Gainsborough's Couple In a Landscape before the X-ray Investigation

The ghost behind the Gainsborough

X-rays reveal hidden masterpiece

David Lister Arts News Editor

An art expert, disturbed by an untidy skirt in a pointing by Thomas Gainsborough. embarked on a piece of sleuthing which has resulted in a major discovery.

Susan Foister, a senior curator at the National Gallery in London, used the latest X-ray technology to "strip down" the picture by the 18th-century British artist. The X-ray re-

Ms Foister is organising the ough" which opens at the National Gallery tomorrow. She said yesterday that she

had become worried about one nicture loaned for the exhibition. Couple in a Landscape, shoulders of a woman in a hat excited about

south-east London.

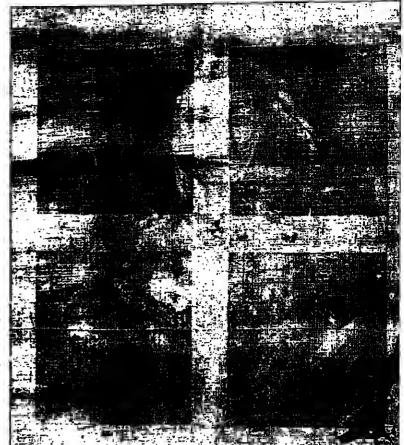
"I was suspicious of the Dul-wich picture," she said yester-day. "The skirt of the woman didn't look like Gainsborough's dresses. Normally in his paintings you see the folds beautifully portrayed and the light falling on the satiny-looking skirts. In this one the folds aren't neat. There's a lack of logicality in the

way the highlights are shown.
"I thought it would be intervesied a completely different essing to check it out, so I had painting underneath. essing to check it out, so I had the painting brought in early and X-rayed it. The X-ray that exhibition "Young Gainsbor- came out was quite extraordinary. For a start. Gainsborough had worked on it the other way up, and when we turned it round, we saw there was a painting of the head and

which she had viewed often at the Dulwich Picture Gallery in and dress. "We could see that the lips of this woman were partly shading the dress in the later picture."

Ms Foister says that the earlier picture is "without doubt a Gainsborough", though she does not know who the subject is. She says that it is possible that Gainsborough was commis-sioned to do the earlier painting and the commission was then cancelled. In the interests of economy, Gainsborough might have used the same canvas for

the later work. "It's an impressive portrait of a strong-jawed woman in a beautiful dress," says Ms Foister. "And it's another painting by Gainsborough from a very interesting period in his career. the early period. It's something art historians will be rather



Whitemoor: **QC** promises more proof

James Cusick

Michael Mansfield QC, the defence barrister who last week alleged involvement of guards at Whitemoor prison in the escape of five IRA prisoners and an armed robber, yesterday said he would be handing "new evidence" on the case to Michael Howard, the Home Secretary.

Pointing to involvement of "forces" who wanted to ensure not work, Mr Mansfield was replying to critics who urged him to deliver any new information. These include Mr Howard and Sir John Woodcock, who cooducted so inquiry ioto the Whitemoor break-out.

After the collapse of the second trial of the prisooers last week, the Conservative MP Ian Bruce increased pressure oo Mr Howard to order a new review when he demanded a police investigation into suggestions of a link between the break-out

and a missing prison guard.

Mr Bruce demaoded that the Home Office look into the disappearance of Peter Curran. ao officer at the Cambridgeshire jail. "Mr Curran's disappearance ... could be connected with the hreak-out. There were things going on he may have heeo privy to.

ckers £10,00

comes to e

Last night police said they were independently reviewing their file on Mr Curran and that there had never heen evideoce to suggest he had been killed or committed suicide. Two days before he was last seen in March 1995 he was suspended; he had allegedly been supplying toiletries to prisoners. Yesterday his wife, Christine, who contacted Mr Bruce, told the BBC: "I refuse to believe the Prison Service ... have not considered the far-reaching implications

of corruption being uncovered which may in turn lead to the discovery of something very se-

rious having happened to him."
The death of another officer, Marcia Whitehurst, also raised concern. She died last week when her car left the road oear Wishech. She had been going to the trial in Greenwich. Police confirmed they were treating it as "a routine fatal accideot".

Last week, after the second the IRA ceasefire of 1994 would collapse of the escape trial, again following prejudicial pub-licity, Mr Mansfield said key questions remained uoanswered. Evidence from cameras around Whitemoor's perimeter had never been found. The missing time pointed to collusion of officers. He said the prisoners did not have time to cut the fencing without alarms beiog set off; the wire must have

been cut for them. Paul Magec, 48, Gilbert Mc-Namee, 36, Liam O'Duibhir, 34, Peter Sherry, 31, and Liam Mc-Cotter, 33, and the armed robber Andrew Russell, 34, were charged with breaking out aod possessing a firearm with intent to endanger life and with intent to break prison. They escaped in September 1994 and were recaptured within two hours.

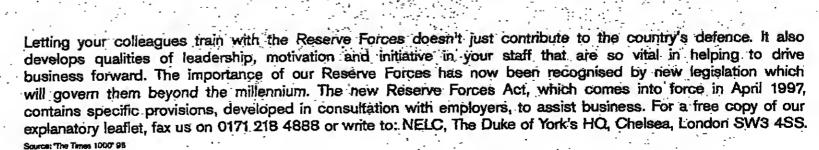
Last night Mr Mansfield said he would he supplying Mr Howard with new evidence. "It's a simple deduction from a sequence of events." Citing coofidentiality, he declined to reveal whether the prisoners had made claims about others being involved. Mr Mansfield said the hreak-out happened less than a fortnight after the IRA called its now defunct ceasefire oo August 31, 1994. "There are forces that don't want the ceasefire to work, hehind the scenes. This may have been a way to scupper it."



No. 007281 Of 1996 IN THE HIGH COURT OF RISTICE CHANCERY DIVISION COMPANIES COURT IN THE MATTER OF DEANES HOLDINGS PLC and IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Petition was on 24th December 1999 presented to Her Majorn's High Cour-of Instice for the confirmation of the reduction of the capital of the Company from £5.175,000 to £928,036.50 and the AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the said Petition is directed to be heard before the Registrar of the Companies Court in The Royal Coerts of Instite, Sarand, London WCZA ZLL on the 5th day of February 1997 ANY creditor or shareholder of the sai tion of capital and Gouldens of 22 Tudor Street, London EC4Y OJJ Solicitors for the above

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8 OUT OF 10





THE VOLUNTEER RESERVE FORCES. BRITAIN'S BEST KNOWN BUSINESS SECRET.

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Five days on, and there's still only one game in town. For once the focus groups, consulted by the party HQs on all policies, seem to disagree about something. The Torics' groups of key voters are aching for a new royal yacht. Labour's (doubtless watched by Peter Mandelson through a one-way mirror), seem to be saying that such extravagance, at a time of dying patients and

illiterate children, is unjustifiable. Twickenham Tory Toby Jessel told the House that "£60m divided amongst a population of 50 million comes to £1 per head and - over five years - to 20 pee". It was "unbelievably small-minded" of Labour to oppose it. I began thinking about all the things that I would rather do with £1, and reached 100 in five minutes. But my mind is unbelievably small.

23p in pound.

Last possible day

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Labour and the Lib Dems, meanwhile, wept copious crocodile tears over the fact that the Royal Family had become "embroiled in controversy" by a vote-hungry government. One, Paul Flynn - his voice quivering in sympathy for our wronged royals - quoted the dusty Bible of Commons procedure (Erskine May) in support. All this from an MP who'd quite like to see our royals embroiled in oil.

One "embroiler", the Lih Dems' Alan Beith, suggested commercial involvement in funding the successor to Britannia. Minister Roger Freeman was robust in rejecting any such vulgarity. Business sponsorship of the royal yacht is not appropriate," he said primly. But why nol? If Richard Branson were to plough a hit of much-needed dosh onto

Aaronovitch

'Queen Yacht' looms over Westminster horizon

the monarchy, we could once more be ruled by the Virgin Queen.

The £60m thus saved could be better spent, according to the Opposition practically anywhere. George Foulkes, Labour's aid spokesthing, stymied by the Brownian Blanket (thrown over all

spending commitments) suggested from a sedentary position, as they say down here - that it might help meet Labour's pledge on beginning to restore the aid budget. I have a suspicion that Mr Foulkes thought no one was listening. Meanwhile Dafydd Wigley

(Plaid Cymru) wanted it spent on a new hospital for Portmadog. In Wales.

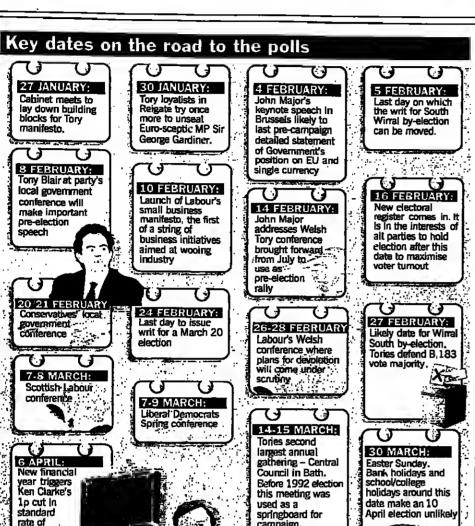
John Prescott, goading Hezza over the lack of consultation, called the offending vessel the "Queen Yacht". This makes sense - if her Mum is the Queen Mum (rather than the Queen's Mum), we should have the Queen Yacht. As ever, it isn't Prescott who's wrong, but the daft convention that he

so cleverly satirises. But even he couldn't deal with the claim that a royal yacht is good for diplomacy - or, (as Mr Freeman called it), a "statement about our nation". If true, may I suggest three MPs to sail on board? Number one is John Marshall, who asked whether the minister would "remind our colleagues in Europe that this country has had much greater

success in job creation than they have?" That should go down very well.

Or how about Tony Marlow (once again wearing the black shirt, that provoked a colleague to ask when he was planning to march on Rome), who asked about "Brussel's own Josef Goebbels, Geoffrey Martin [head of the commission's office in London who seeks to involve himself in the British election". The man is a credit to us.

Then there's Cleethorpes Conservative, Michael Brown, who casually asserted that a "large number of vicars are unable to remember more than two or three of the Ten Commandments". Michael himself can recall most of them, beginning with not coveting your neighbour's ass. So how about not bearing false witness?



APRIL FEBRUARY

MAY 1: Election day? The Prime Minister's

Top judge in savage Lords assault on Crime Bill

Patricia Wynn Davies Legal Affairs Editor

Britain's most senior judges launched a fresh attack last night on the Government's controversial plans for mandatory tougher sentences for persistent and violent criminals.

Lord Bingham, the Lord Chief Justice, and Lord Woolf, the Master of the Rolls, led a barrage of criticism during the House of Lords' Second Reading of the Crime (Sentences) Bill.

More than 30 peers spoke during yesterday evening's dehate, a majority hostile to the proposals which have already cleared the Commons. The Bill represented an "indiscriminate, scatter-gun" approach which was "radically unsound" and which would lead to injustice. Lord Bingham declared.

The Bill obliges judges to pass minimum jail terms on thirdtime hurglars and drug dealers, indeterminate life sentences on second-time violent or sexual offenders unless there are "exceptional" circumstances, and abolishes current arrangements for parole and postrelease supervision. Opening the debate, the

Home Office minister Baroness Blatch said that the proposals would provide "protection and reassurance for the public". But in his first contribution

in the Lords' chamber since his appointment as Lord Chief Jus-



Lord Bingham: Made his debut in the House as Lord Chief Justice with a comprehensive critique of the 'overwhelming disadvantages' of the Government's sentencing plans

tice, Lord Bingham said in a hruising critique of the Bill that each of its three key planks had to be tested against four questions: "Will it be just? Will crime or increase the protection tests.

of society? Will it be cost-ef-fective? Will it work in practice? I feel bound to tell your Lordships that in my judgement these measures conspicuously it serve to reduce levels of fail to pass all four of those

Dismissing as a "subversive lie" any suggestion that judges were indifferent to the evils of crime and condemning a list of "vices" in the Bill, Lord Bingham said that the existing parole and remission scheme, put

m place in 1991, was "clear and intelligible ... it enables offenders to be reintroduced into the community conditionally.

The Government's plans - hased on a slogan, honesty in sentencing" - involved "overwhelming disadvantages", including the fact that postrelease supervision would be shorter than at present. The proposals for prisoners to earn remission would prove "incapable" of fair operation, Lord

Bingham said. Attacking the proposals for obligatory sentences, the Lord Chief Justice warned that the imposition of the automatic life sentence would give rise to indefensible anomalies, while experience in the United States had shown that where the imposition of an automatic penalty offends the conscience of an ordinary person, prosecutors charged on less serious offences than were warranted.

"If, as the century and the. millennium slide to a close, our penal thinking is to be judged by the thinking which animates this Bill, then my Lords, I for one will shrink from the verdict of history," Lord Bingham declared.

Lord McIntosh of Haringey, Labour's home affairs spokesman in the Lords, said that Labour did not oppose the Bill "root and hranch", although it had a number of concerns and would be seeking changes to parts of it.



Labour HQ to write shortlists

Fran Abrams Political Correspondent

The Labour leadership is planning to impose shortlists on up to five constituencies which have not yet chosen their can-

didates for the general election. The move is bound to increase speculation - denied by national officials - that Labour will try to place the Tory defector Alan Howarth in one of its few remaining safe seats.

There are also rumours that

a sitting MP may announce his or her retirement shortly before the election, allowing the leadership to choose its own candidate. The decision, to be con-

firmed by the party's National Executive Committee 10morrow, would remove local constituency parties from the selection process.

The safe seats where the leadership is likely to be involved in the shortlisting include Don Valley, whose MP Martin Redmond died last week. Mem-

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bers in the east London seat of Bethnal Green and Bow, where the MP Peter Shore is retiring, were told two weeks ago that their shortlist was to be drawn up by the national executive. Tory strongholds South Ribble in Lancashire and Hazel Grove in Greater Manchester will also

be included. Two constituencies where the local party has been suspended because of allegations of membership rigging will also have their selection processes truncated. In Bradford West, the NEC will interview the local party's nominees while in Birmingham, all the 13 people nominated by wards and other organisations in Sparkhrook and Small Heath will compete in a ballot.

A spokesman for Labour's North West region said it would be in a good position to advise the party about the applicants.
"We have a 24-hour a day. seven day a week dialogue with these constituencies ... We have

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Dorrell moves to abolish mixed-sex wards

Liz Hunt Health Editor

Mixed-sex wards are to be consigned to health service history, the Government confirmed vesterday, after a lengthy modated together in old-style, campaign by patients' groups to banish them from hospitals.

Stephen Dorrell, Secretary of State for Health, who has made clear his opposition to mixedsex wards since his appointment, launched plans designed to prolect the privacy and dignity of in mental hospitals, which have

promised prompt action.

Mr Dorrell said: "I do not find it acceptable for men and women to have to be accomunadapted wards. I want to see good physical separation of beds for men and women, with separate toilet and washing facilities."

One of Mr Dorrell's priorities is to end mixed-sex wards

patients two years after his pre- been hlamed for exposing vul- for the NHS Executive in two decessor, Virginia Bottomley, nerable women patients to the health regions. North West and risk of abuse by disturbed men.

Mr Dorrell outlined plans per cent of hospitals had some wards which did not provide which mean that hospitals must ensure they re-organise their single-sex accommodation. accommodation by the end of 1998, so that all patients on a particular ward are of the same sex. One estimate is that it will cost around £1 m for each health authority to comply with the

West Midlands, found that 44

Big wards may be divided into single-sex hays with separate hathroom facilities, while oldfashioned Nightingale wards could be divided down the middle by partitions under the new new regulations in the country's plans. Mr Dorrell has made it 450 hospitals. A 1995 survey of clear that makeshift partitions mixed-sex wards carried out or curtains will not be accept-

option. Some hospitals may have to invest in new wings.

Alan Langlands, the NHS

chief executive, has sent a detailed letter asking all authorities to report through regional offices by the end of February. They must submit timetables showing by what date hospitals in their areas will: have good organisational аттапдешения in place to separate men and women while they are in hospital:

standard for segregated washmg and toilet facilities in full: ■ provide safe facilities for

mentally ill people which protect their privacy and dignity. The letter also includes guidance on the ways in which this can be done.

There will have to be exceptions in emergency cases, including intensive care. accident and emergency, and children's wards, but the letter points out that in all cases staff

to privacy and dignity. Mr Langland's letter points promises separate toilet and washing facilities as the standard and, apart from emergencies, people ought to receive information about the type of accommodation to which they will be admitted and have a right

accommodation. If someone needs to wait

choose single-sex

able. A solid wall will be the only

meet the Patient's Charter and management systems ought until suitable accommodation is place as soon as possible, and no later than promised in the out that the Patient's Charter waiting-time guarantees, the lerter concludes.

A spokesman for the Royal College of Nursing said: This is excellent news for nurses who have campaigned so long for the right of patients to single-sex accommodation. Health service managers will now need to estimate the true cost of meeting this target."

Miracle skin cream suffers loss of face

Liz Hunt

An expensive skin cream, hailed as a hreakthrough in anti-ageing treatments and apparently hacked by medical research, may be no more effective than cheap moisturisers, it was

claimed yesterday.

The cream Servital, which costs £75 for 50ml, was launched earlier this month with much publicity and, it was claimed, the apparent endorsement of Guy's Hospital in south-east London.

But the doctor at Guy's who carried out research on the cream has now distanced himself from the claims and accused the manufacturers. Syence, of misleading use of his data as a marketing tool.

Dr Stephen Young, a re-search scientist from the tissue viability unit at Guy's Hospital Medical School, said: "I feel embarrassed about the whole thing and this sort of publicity is not what the hospital and in particular the medical school would welcome. We would not endorse this or any other product."

The apparent support of Guy's for Syence's claims led to reports of "miracle hreakthroughs" in some newspapers which would normally be wary of them. The Independent did not run the story after checking it out with demnatologists not involved

in the research or the launch. Dr Young told the BBC tele-

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Watchdog: Face Value, that he had been conducting a trial on an new ultrasound machine which was able to measure minute changes in skin thickness. Sixty women took part in the trial, 40 used Servital and 20 just massaged their faces. The vomen using Servital showed an

increase in skin thickness. However, the trial did not compare the cream with any others. Face Value asked Dr Young to test three which cost less than £5; Glycerine and Rose Water, Oil of Ulay, and a Boots No7 Moisturiser. All thickened the skin measurably.

Guy's said yesterday that its involvement with Syence came when the hospital was seeking funding for its research programme, and that they had hoped to draw attention to the machine by carrying out the

tests for a cosmetic company. Dr Young said: "We were just a research team and we were totally focused on getting funds to carry on the research and to he able to get this prototype technology to the patient."

Sean Campbell, managing di-rector of Syence, told the BBC: "We wanted to have our product tested at an institution that was of repute to be able to do the right sort of tests. The machine that they have at Guy's is the only machine that is able to test without a biopsy, which is the cutting away of the skin ... I don't feel vision consumer programme we've tried to damage Guy's."



Beauty business: Cheap moisturisers from high-street chemists could prove to be as effective as Servital, which costs £75 for a 50ml bottle and was launched amid claims of a breakthrough In anti-ageing treatment

Atomic laser points the way to future

Charles Arthur Science Editor

could become the most precise manufacturing tool that numans ever build. Physicists in the United States have demonstrated the world's first "atomic laser, in which atoms take the place of light, producing a stream of matter that can be precisely controlled.

The result could be atomicsized machines and measuring instruments, huilt to tolerances never hefore possible. Electronic circuits could be manufactured in which each "wire" consisted of a line of atoms allowing super-miniaturisation a thousand times more compact than is now possible. It will also increase our understanding of the "quantum world" of individual atoms.

An experiment last November at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). in Boston, produced a pulse of atoms at temperatures close to absolute zero (-273C) which behaved as though they were a single "superatom". Physicists call this a "Bose-Einstein condensate" - a state of matter which was only discovered in July 1995.

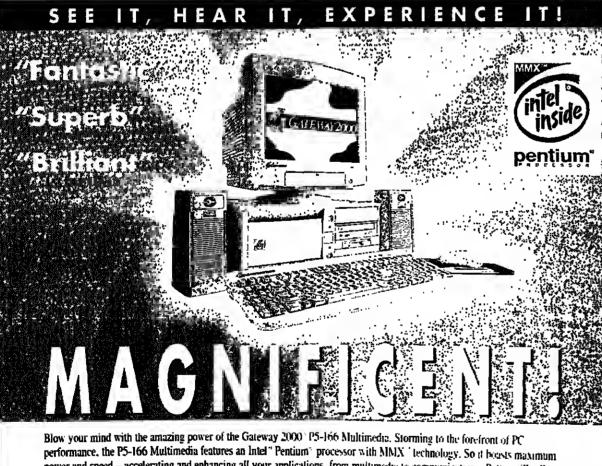
By cooling the atoms until their random heat energy was produced particles which were locked into the same energy state, like a resonating solid.

"It's very like a laser source." said Professor Keith Burnett. of the physics department at Oxford University, who has been working with the learn at MIT on the theory of the system. "You can then control the atoms very precisely: they all come out in step, moving in exactly the same way. You could aim the beam where you want: it would be the ultimate

printer."
Professor Burnett predicts that future versions of the system will be used for manufacturing in the 21st century, and for studying the boundary between the quantum world - in which matter and light can behave like waves and particles - and the macroscop-ic world, which we experience.

The latest work is reported in yesterday's edition of the journal Physical Review Letters, and also in this week's Science. It's fantastic. It's really one of the most exciting things in atomic physics that I've seen in the last 1t years," said John Doyle, a professor at Harvard University.

Professor Burnett said: "My feeling is that this will evolve to be something of considerable interest. At the moment we can only see the obvious applications, like the 'printer' idea. But it will also amplify our understanding of what we can do. We will become quantum



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Charles Markey

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An enduring influence, but nation divides over legacy of Steve Biko

emerge after confession to Atomic lase killing by security policemen

Mary Braid Johannesburg

points the To vay to futur Two decades after his murder Steve Biko's influence endures. But the real nature of the Black Consciousness leader's legacy and who carries his torch - still arouses bitter controversy.

As a new row crupted last night over the confirmation that five former security po-liceman had applied for amnesty in connection with Biko's death, very different Bikos seemed about to he resurrected by opposing camps.

Biko, a former student leader, founded the Black Consciousness Movement in 1969, and gave up medical training to devote himself to the struggle. The radical black pride philosophy came into its own in the mid-1970s, when the liberation movement appeared to be faltering and many ANC leaders were in jail or exile.

Biko's message inspired a generation and fired the confrontation between schoolchildren and the apartheid authorities in Soweto and other townships. The resulting vi-olence shocked the world, as did Biko's death from hrain injunes, after 21 days in police detention a few years later.

Although the ANC leadership was never comfortable with Biko's message, or the confrontations it sparked, the new radicalism changed the course of black liberation.

In Sir Richard Attenborough's Cry Freedom in 1987, which told the story of the friendship between Biko and Donald Woods, then editor of the East London Daily Dispaich, Biko was presented as a figure resembling Martin Luther King.

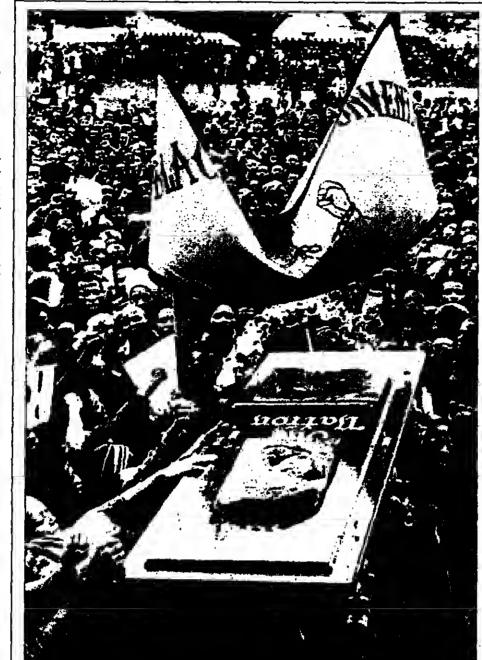
But the portrayal divided his

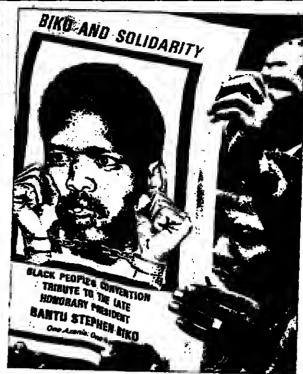
old associates. Some dismissed it as saccharine-sweet "Hollywoodisation". Woods, they argued, was a prominent member of the white liberal establishment, which was a prime target

Though Woods had to flee South Africa following Biko's death, after running anti-government editorials, these old polítical allies claim Biko could not help but see Woods as part of the problem.

Sirini Moodley, a founder member of the BCM, insists Biko believed that whites could not help hlacks. "In his last television interview [Biko] made it clear that black people must pull themselves up by their own bootstraps rather than rely on the assistance of whites," says Mr Moodley. "There was no accommodation for white people in the BCM and that is why Steve was murdered.

But Malusi and Thoko Mpumhwana, former political allies of Biko, distinguish between the early and late Biko. They argue that he softened his





picture, Biko's funeral in King Williams Town, 1977; above, Biko's death sparked mass protests; below, Denzil Washington as Biko and Kevin Kline as journalist Donald Woods in the 1987 film Cry Freedom



significant shorts

Investigative journalist 'executed' in Argentina

Argentinians bave been stunned by the mafia-style weekend execution of a leading investigative news photographer, hilled as the worst murder of a journalist since the so-called "Dirty War" of the 1970s.

Jose Luis Cabezas, a 35-year-old father of three, was

found shot in the head, his bands bound behind his back and burnt almost beyond recognition in his car in the beach resort of Pinamar. Police sources told the daily La Nacion smoke in his lungs suggested he had been set alight before he was shot. Cabezas was in the resort to seek pictures of holidaying government officials and top

husinessmen for the weekly news magazine Noticias, known for its aggressive reports on President Carlos.

Menem and other leading figures.

An hour or two before his body was found early on Saturday, Cabezas had attended a lavish party at the villa of leading husinessman Oscar Andreani, a postal services magnate and friend of Mr Menem.

Troops on alert in Albania

Albanian troops deployed around the country yesterday after a weekend of violent protests as ruling right-wing Democrats called for a counter-demonstration against rival Socialists they accuse of stoking the tension.

Armed soldiers surrounded the central bank and

guarded state television headquarters in Tirana after clashes in the capital, a prison riot and waves of demonstrations. Soldiers began clearing harricades of rocks erected by protesters to prevent police reinforcements reaching their towns. Two inmates were killed in a riot at a prison in central Albania late on Sunday. The unrest has been sparked by the collapse of pyramid investment schemes in which Albanians bave poured millions of pounds in cash.

US 'anti-Scientology campaign'

The Christian Social Union, Chancellor Helmut Kohl's coalition partner, accused the US State Department of falling for a Church of Scientology hate campaign against Germany. The CSU general secretary, Bernd Protzner, urged Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel to intervene in Washington to bead off criticism the State Department has been reported to be planning against Germany for restrictions on the controversial group. Reuters - Bonn

Yeltsin cancels foreign trip

The Russian President Boris Yeltsin has cancelled a visit to the Netherlands on the orders of his doctors. Doctors had advised Mr Yeltsin, who is recovering from pneumonia, to refrain from air travel.

CIA torture methods revealed

A CIA training manual describes torture methods, such as stripping suspects naked and keeping them blindfolded, that were used on dissidents in Honduras during the 1980s. The booklet advises interrogators to deprive their prisoners of food and sleep and make them stand at attention for long periods. The 1983 manual and another from 1963 were declassified in response to a Freedom of Information Act request from the Baltimore Sun.

Biko on the philosophy of Black Consciousness

In his book / Write What / Like, Biko wrote:

Being black is not a matter of pigmentation - being black is a reflection of a mental attitude.

"Merely by describing yourself as black, you have started on a road towards emancipation. You have committed yourself to nt against all forces that seek to use you blackness as a stamp that marks you out as a subservient being.

...[Black Consciousness is] the most positive call to come from any group in the black world for a long time. It is more than just a reactionary rejection of whites by blacks. The quintessence of it is the realisa-

tion by blacks that, in order to feature well in this game of power politics, they have to use the concept of group power and have to build a strong foundation for this. "The philosophy of Black Consciousness

therefore expresses pride and determina-tion by blacks. At the heart of this kind of thinking is the realisation by blacks that the most potent weapon in the hands of the oppressor is the mind of the oppressed.

"Once the oppressed has been so effectively manipulated and controlled by the oppressor to make him believe that he is a liability to the white man ... there will be will really scare the powerful masters."

stance before he died. His early beliefs, they admit, were that blacks had to withdraw from "partnerships" with whites because such associations were unequal. But the Mpumlwanas say the later Biko saw that growing black confidence made a part-

nership possible.
The ANC strengthened this view of a softer Biko at a recent hearing of the TRC, when it claimed that before his death Biko had been poised to meet Oliver Tambo, the then presi-

The ANC believes that the planned meeting, not his inability to accommodate whites, was connected with his death. because it held out a promise of greater black unity

The two women in Biko's life, his wife Ntsiki and his lover Mamphela Ramphele (recently appointed vice-chancellor of Cape Town University), also bave different views of the man and his teachings. Ms Ramphele insists he was never anti-white. But Biko's widow, Ntsiki, says

Yesterday's confirmation of the amnesty application was ancomplained the ANC did not mark the anniversary of her husband's death and that his grave was unattended and overgrown. "Many politicians in high places

seem to have forgotten what they owe Steve," she said. Ironically, she added that life would have been harder for her and her two sons, Nkosinathi and Samora, without the help of Biko's old white liberthe TRC will rob her of justice. al friend, Donald Woods.

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Olympic bomb guard to net \$1m



ecome a millionaire

Richard Jewell, the security guard wrongly implicated in the Atlanta Olympics bombing, has been doing the rounds of the United States television alk-show circuit complaining that his life has been ruined.

The lament is beginning to sound a little hollow. The news from Hollywood is that Mr Jewell is about to sign a six-figure contract for exclusive rights to a feature film dramatising his or-deal. Last month the Wall Street Journal reported that he had reached a \$1/2m settlement with NBC after the television net-

sion on 27 July, which killed one person and injured 111.

The Hollywood newspaper Daily Variety reported yesterday that three studios have been bidding for the Jewell story and that he was edging towards signing with Fox 2000, which offered the most money up-front.
With a book deal almost cer-

tain to follow, Mr Jewell, 34, appears well on the way to becoming a millionaire - a status he could not remotely have aspired to before the Centennial Park bomh. As a private security guard who lived with his mother in a humble apartment, nothing had suggested until

at the American Dream. In fact, it was in large part because he conformed to the cruel US stereotype of "the loser" that the FBI hit upon him as a possible suspect in the first place.

Last October, the justice department issued a statement elearing him of suspicion and since then Mr Jewell has been making hay, savouring the two hlessings to which Americans most aspire, celebrity and money. One of the lawyers who is in on the action was quoted last week as saying about a movie deal: "Any interest Richard Jewell has in this is demonstrated by a desire to have the story told correctly. It's not an interest for mon-

He trusts his mum to get him home. But who can she trust?

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Clergy join crusade against Milosevic

Tony Barber

More than 100,000 Serbs marched through Belgrade yesterday in a religious procession designed partly to sustain the 10week protest movement against President Slobodan Milosevic. But a court decision appeared to reverse an earlier opposition vic-

Two dozen Orthodox priests led the procession, one of the largest church-sponsored events in Belthodox church, praised demonstrators who have staged peaceful protests in Belgrade and other towns every day since the Socialist (ex-Communist) authorities annulled opposition victories in local elections in November. Today, eyes are watching us telling us to endure on the holy and righteous road," he said. In Belgrade, the city electoral commission which awarded vic-

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VII

the state of the s

First Municipal Court. Commission chairman Radomir

ing. "The decision is completely against the law," he told reporters. "Truth and justice are endangered. There is a legal right of the people to start a rebellion."

Opposition rallies have spread to about 50 Serbian towns, but in Belgrade in recent days the number of protesters has fallen from a peak of 100,000 to a hard core grade for 50 years. Patriarch of 15,000 to 20,000. Yesterday's Pavle, head of the Serbian Ormarch was the largest daytime march was the largest daytime gathering in the city for more than a month, but it was at least as re-ligious as political in nature, since it officially marked the holiday of St Sava, the 13th-century founder of the Serbian Orthodox church.

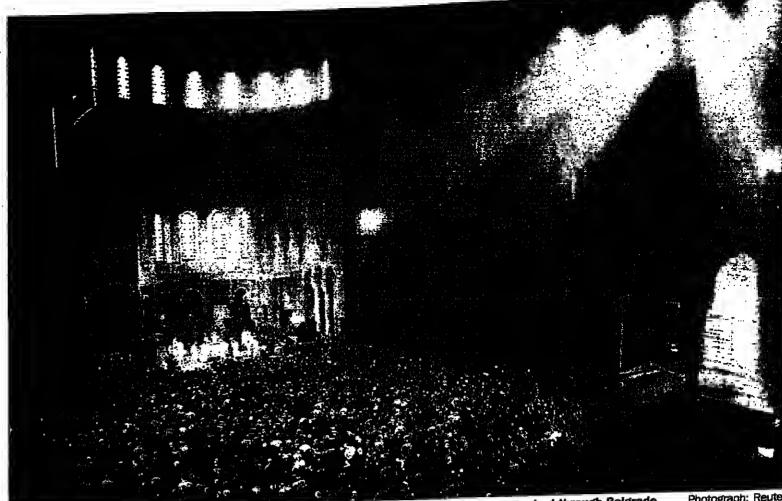
Patriarch Pavle has thrown the church's considerable authority as from the sky and ground and are a symbol of the Serbian nation squarely behind the opposition. However, his motives are more complex than the desire for justice and democracy that has futory to the Zajedno opposition al- elled the protest movement.

liance last week said yesterday its ruling had been quashed by the 1991-95 wars in former Yugoslavia, he was as much of a Serbian nationalist as Mr Milosevic. Lazarevic was enraged by the rul- The rift that later opened between them owed much to his view that Mr Milosevic had betrayed ethnic Serbs in Bosnia and Croatia by standing aside as they lost their lands in a conflict inspired

largely by the Serbian president.
Zajedno legislators yesterday took formal control of Nis, Serbia's second-largest city, where the Socialists conceded this month that they had lost the November elections. Sixteen Socialist deputies boy-

cotted the ceremony in Nis. Zoran Zivkovic, the likely new mayor, said that five decades of

Communist and Socialist rule had left the city "totally ruined" . By mixing restraint with mild repression and by making concessions that seem genuine but eventually turn out to be trivial, Slobodan Milosevic appears to be calculating that he can wear out the opposition in a contest that could last months.



Lighting the way: Worshippers in St Sava Cathedral yesterday, when 100,000 protesters marchad through Belgrade

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Chechens euphoric in vote for freedom

Hundreds of thousands of Chechens swamped polling booths yesterday for a historic election to choose their own leader and send a defiant message to Russia that they now be-

long to an independent nation. A wave of euphoria swept across the small Caucasus republic throughout a festive and frantic day that Chechens seem certain to remember as the moment they sealed their de facto victory in the 21-month war with Russia.

Such was the multitude which descended on voting stations, many struggling in from far-flung, bombed-out villages in rickety cars and huses, that the electoral authorities last night kept the polls open for an extra two hours until 10pm.

Although last year's peace accord with Moscow deferred the settlement of Chechnya's status for five years, yesterday's elections for president and parliament were seen by Chechens as evidence that the l-millionstrong Islamic mountain republic has acquired nationhood.

Taisa Karsamayali, a middle-aged woman wrapped in a fox fur against the -5C temper-atures, resented being made to vote in Soviet times when the elections were rigged and the candidates were stooges. But yesterday was different: "Today is like a holiday. It was pure joy, hecause I was voting for independence and for my own country. It was a very important day She had voted for Aslan

Maskhadov, the former separatist chief-of-staff who is the favourile and Moscow's choice, as he is viewed as the most moderate of the five leading candidates. But like most who have endured almost two years of Russian bombs and bullets, she said she would be happy with the outcome no matter who won, even if it was Shamil Basayev, the popular Chechen field commander, whom Russia has branded a terrorist.

Ms Karsamayali, a judge, was standing in brilliant sunshine outside voting station number 41, a gutted general store in Grozny, the capital. The store was being used for refugees from three outlying villages wrecked by Russian bombs during the war, Atchkoi, Yandi and Bamut. Within, the activity was feverish and the enthusiasm palpable.

Grandmothers. young women and middle-aged men in sheepskin hats queued before the curtained booths, coloured bright green, like the Chechen flag, before posting their hallots into boxes and having their right hands sprayed with indelible ink.

Adam Ismaelov, 30, a former Chechen separatist fighter, was at the front. He still carried his sub-machine gun slung over his black leather jacket. He said hewould probably choose the interim president, Zelimkhan Yandarbiyev, the right-hand man of Dzhokar Dudayev, the former Soviet air force general who led Chechпуа's drive for

independence until his assassination nine months ago. (Grozny has since heen re-named Dzhokar-Ghala - "the city of Dzhokar", in his honour). But he added: "it makes no difference to me. All the candidates are like brothers.

The election official in charge of the station, Vakhar Gaysumov, himself a refugee, could barely contain his excitement. He proudly showed off his two armed guards who would escort the ballot boxes to the regional counting centre; the three as-sistants - women, wrapped in huge coats against the freezing cold. filling out lists at a lable: the register of 496 names, compiled by word of mouth. Voters left off the list lined up to register, clutching dog-eared old Soviet passports.

Like almost every Chechen, he was desperate to show visiting journalists and thus the outside world that the election was organised and wholly fair A verdict on that will he delivered by the 72 international observers who came to Chechnya under the auspices of the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE)



Basayev casting his ballot. Russia calls him a terrorist.

6 Today was pure joy, as I was voting for my country's independence

But there were no complaints from the voters as they rushed to polling booths, erected amidst the ruins of their homes. Even interviews with a handful of Grozny's ethnic Russians, among the minority of Russian who stayed on in Chechnya after the war, produced no

Yesterday, to the annovance of many in Moscow, Chechnya celebrated its day of liberation. How long the euphoria will last in a republic that needs Moscow's help to rebuild its shattered infrastructure is another question.

Yesterday the Chechens forgot the ruins around them, the lack of jobs and their wrecked economy. However, that sense of triumph will be impossible to sustain.

- C).-p

Robbery that followed the Holocaust

2,000 art works in French museums

John Lichfield

French national museums bold nearly 2,000 works of art stolen from Jews by the Nazis during the Second World War, it was revealed yesterday.

On the eve of "Holocaust Day" ceremonies to commemorate the anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz concentration camp, the French government announced that it was scrting up an inquiry into the origins of hundreds of artworks now in museums and believed to have been stolen from French Jews by the

eollaborationist Viety regime.
The works, now exhibited or stored in the Louvre, the Musee d'Orsay, and other museums, include paintings by Monet. Renoir. Gauguin and sculptures by Rodin. The Prime Minister, Alain Juppe.

announced at the weekend that he is setting up a committee of inquiry into the origins, and the legal status, of billions of francs worth of property pillaged from French Jews during the war. Much of this property, including real estate and husinesses, as well

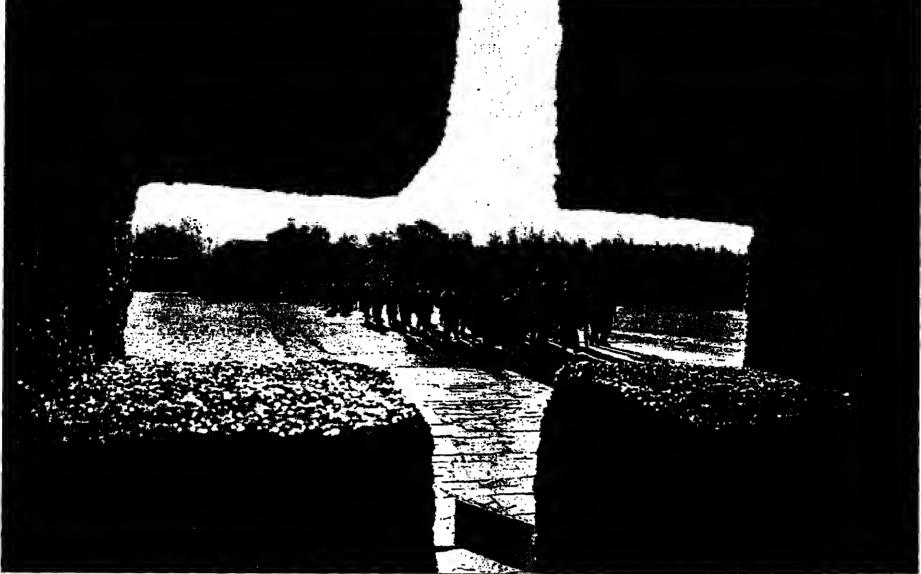
euphoric in vote for freedom

18 Augusta

as works of art, was never returned, It was already known, or suspected, that some of the art ended up in museums owned by the French state or large cities. But the sheer size and quality of the collection, once owned by wealthy French-Jewish families, was exposed by an internal government inquiry, completed two years

ago.
The results of the investigation, by the Cour des Comptes - the French audit office - was made public for the first time by the newspaper Le Monde

The investigators are sharply critical of both the French state and Individual museum curators, for making feeble attempts to identify the true owners, or their heirs, and for failing to state clearly the origins of the works. Only the Musee d'Orsay was prepared to admit that it possessed masterpieces such as Gauguins and Monets which belonged to Jewish families, deported or stripped of their property, by the pro-Nazi Vichy



Sacred duty: German officials and former prisoners yesterday honouring victims killed by the Nazis In the concentration camp at Sachsenhausen

government. Others failed to respond to the auditors' questions or elaimed the works they possessed were of minor value.

Evidence has also emerged in recent months that several French cities, including Paris, still own large numbers of apartments and other real estate stolen by the Viehy regime as part of a systematic effort to obliterate Jewish influence and culture in

The new committee of investiga-tion set up by Mr Juppe follows years of pressure by the French Jewish community. Speaking to the main umbrella body for Jewish organisations at the weekend, the Prime Minister said that such an investigation was "not just a moral gesture but a

national duty". For half a century af-minister under President Giscard Vichy authorities in the identification and deportation of French Jews was

ter the end of the war, the part of the d'Estaing in the 1970s, accused of organising the arrest of Jews while be and deportation of French Jews was the Vichy police chief in Boran officially forhidden subject. To his deaux, Histrial is due to begin in May.

6 This investigation is not just a moral gesture but a national duty 🤊

great credit, President Chirac abruptchanged all that in July 1995 when he formally admitted the responsibility of the French state.

The Chirac-Juppe government has Over 70,000 were deported to conalso vigorously pursued legal charges against Maurice Papon, a budget centration camps in Germany and Eastern Europe, mostly never to re-

There were 300,000 Jews living in France in 1940. All were stripped of their property when Marshal Petain seized power with Germany's help.

turn. After the war, 61,000 works of art pillaged from Jews and other Nazi victims were gathered at Complegne and 45,000 were successfully re-claimed. Most of the rest were sold off but 1,955 of the better works of art were given to museums.

The Cour des Comptes accuses the French authorioes of that time of failing adequately to publicise the existence of this treasure trove and failing to draw up a proper inventory.

Zurieb (Reuters) - Switzer-

land's ambassador to the United States resigned yesterday after a document he wrote calling for "waging war" against Jewish groups and other vocal critics was leaked to the press, triggering uproar.

The SonntagsZeitung weekly said the document came from a confidential strategy paper which am-hassador Carlo Jagmetti sent to Berne last month dealing with the row over dormant accounts in Swiss banks of World War Two Holocaust

This is a war that Switzerland must wage and win on the foreign and domestic front," said the document. You cannot trust most of the adversaries,"

Sonutags Zeitung said the "adversaries" to whom Jagmetti referred were Jewish groups and US senator Alfonse D'Amato, who have accused the Swiss of profiting cynically from the war and are seeking compensation for Holocaust victims.

Day of memory derided as hollow

Imre Karacs

Germany remembered the victims of Nazism yesterday with a mixture of humility and

in the words of one opposition
MP, "hollow pathos".
Marking "Holocaust Day" on
the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz, the two houses of parliament held a joint session the German flag flew on gov-ernment buildings and 5 chools had a special history lesson.

turbed only by the clamour of East European Jews who have yet to be compensated groups representing the anti-Nazi resistance and the enduring row over a gigantic tombstone that is supposed to be erected in memory of almost 6 millino Jews.
"The Day of Commemora-

tion is in danger of turning into a farce," declared Green MI Volker Beck. "Many victims are asking: 'which victims are being commemorated today?" He replied: "Not the tens of thousands who deserted from the Webrmacht". For five decades Mr Beck has tried in vain to decriminalise soldiers who had refused to follow or ders. Deserters remain traitors under the laws, and are thus de

And Germany has paid only partial compensation to many East European Jews, and none at all to survivors in the Balti.

prived of a war pension.

That is not to say that the German state has suddenly be come tight-fisted. A Holocaus memorial is to be erected in the centre of Berlin, engraving th names of known Jewish victim: nn a slab of granite the size o a football pitch. But many Jew feel that the government shoul pay more attention both to the victims, and to the preservation of the camps where they sulfered, than in erecting artificis

Capture and freedom with a hidden Lebanese agenda

Robert Fisk looks for the motives behind some strange events

Beirut — Why was Darrar el-Karmeh, fi-nancial director of the new Beirut Marriott hotel, kidnapped by three armed men on 3 January? Why was be released un-harmed at the weekend? And why - a question of rather more pressing importance to Arab embassies in the region - have three Iraqi diplomats beld in Beirut for the murder of an Iraqi opposition leader in 1994 suddenly also been given their freedom? The Lebanese press, with that discretion that always suggests a sister country may have been involved, has been hinting broadly that Syria is sending some blunt messages to its international rivals.

But first to Mr Karmeh, a Palestinian with a Jordanian passport whose wife and three children live with him in Beirut. Not long after his abduction, the Lebanese anthorities - embarrassed at being unable to hunt down his kidnappers or to explain the back-ground to his disappearance - told Lebanese journalists, off the record, that three Syrian intelligence agents bad "lifted" the man from the Marriott oo suspicion of involvement in the killing of a Syrian civilian in a bus north of Beirut last December and the later bombing of a bus in Damascus which left 13 civilians dead. There were rumours that - under the terms of the 1991 Friendship and Cooperation treaty - Mr Karmeh had been taken to Syrian intelligence beadquarters at Aanjar or even to Damascus. The Jordanian

Jan McGirk New Deihi

A British Council lecturer is

trying single-bandedly to

Martin Cutts gives anti-obfuscation advice." He insists

that Indians must shed the colo-

nial phrases left over from the

British Raj, forget the Em-

press's English and re-learn

7.33.70



Saddam Hussein: Growing support for movement to overthrow him

embassy complained to the Lehanese foreign ministry, demanding news of the

But while the ministry was trying to explain the mystery, it was also instructing the security authorities in the city to release the three Iraqi diplomats. All three - Mohamed Kamel, Ali Darwish and Hadi Najm - were stripped of their diplomatic immunity in 1994 and accused of the assassination of Sheikh Taleb Soheil, a prominent member of the anti-Saddam Hussein "Council of

Free Iraq".
Then last weekend, all three Iraqis were freed from custody and allowed to return to Iraq through Damascus - even though Syria remains Iraq's harshest oppone ot in

Heat taken out of language curry

who have given their encouragement to the murdered sheikh's Council of Free Iraq bitterly complained to the Lebanese, this time not via the foreign ministry in Amman

but directly from the Hashemite royal court. So what on earth has been going on in Lehanon these last few weeks? Did Lebanon suddenly decide to rid itself of three troublesome diplomats because, out of the blue, it decided to restore relations with Iraq? Did Mr Karmeh suffer amnesia on his way to work three weeks ago, only to recover his memory at the weekend, unable - and he has refused to talk to journalists - to recall anything that happened to him since 3 January?

Or could it be that Syria, which has said nothing about either affair, is allowing silence to speak louder than words? The Jordania os have been accusing Syria of "terrorism" of late, and at least one Unit-ed States think-tank has suggested that Jordan might be used as a springboard to destabilise Syria if it will not come to heel and sign a peace with Israel without the return of the Israeli-occupied Golan heights.

Jordan makes no secret of its support for Iraqis who wish to overthrow President Saddam Hussein, even for the installation of a Jordanian royal on a restored Iraqi throne. With Israel and its new allies - Jordan and Turkey - standing along three of Syria's frootiers, Damascus may be in the mood to remind the world that the rela-tionship with the rival Baaibist regime in Baghdad could yet be restored. How better to do this than by inviting three of Saddam's benchmen to go home via Damascus - and by reminding Jordan that it may be held responsible for attacks on Syrian citizens in both Beirut and Damascus?

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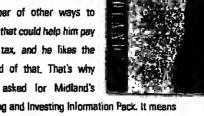


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India's 90 millioo English speakers - a rather stilled Edlanguage is part of it," he said. Over the next three weeks his overhaul the ornate and Long, servile phrases also annoy Mr Cutts. He objects to wardian English spiced with bureaucratic language which the grammar structure of 15 seminars in New Delhi, Allahas bedevilled the subcontinent since the days of the East India habad and Madras will attempt principal Indian languages and letter writers who insist on to redress the language probsome 3,000 dialects - without hegging the favour of your es-In his language workshops held in Indian business centres, lem. One personal goal is to banish the standard 191-word

sentence which appears at the start of every Indian life insurance form. still tend to use archaic language His Plain Language Commission, first launched in Britain which hinders communication in 1989, helped cut the with the uninitiated. An execgobbledygook from Inland Rev- utive might instruct his travel

Mr Cutts, 42, is back by pop-ular demand on his fourth tour

of India. "The British civil ser-

vice left a legacy to India.

Unfortunately, impenetrable

sacrificing its special flavour. While the hoardings and headlines in India's big cities carry a sparky blend of Hindi and MTV slang, husinessmen

enue forms and from turgid

insurance documents. His chal-

lenge is to decipher the dis-

tinctive masala mix used by

and prepone the departure to facilitate my journey out of station and avoid a nighthalt" wheo he merely wants the time of his trip moved forward.

agent to "kindly do the needful

teemed perusal," when they could just type "see below". Not everyone was convinced though. One bureaucrat protested: "But I have spent an eotire lifetime learning these long and unusual words and now you tell me to get rid of



Iris

Bentley

a Croydon warehouse, and the following year her 19-year old

for a posthumous pardon, a

mediately before Craig shot

Miles, he had implored his

young accomplice to "Let him have it Chris". The defence

claimed that Bentley had been

trying to persuade Craig to hand over his weapon, and

Bentley's testimony and subsequent evidence from both one

of the arresting officers and from Craig himself suggest that

the words were never spoken.

Despite the jury's recommen-

dation for mercy, Lord Chief

Justice Goddard sentenced

Bentley to death. Iris Bentley unsuccessfully presented peu-

tions to the Home Secretary, Sir

David Maxwell Fyfe, for a re-

continues after her death.

Professor Roger Tayler

Roger Tayler was a distin-guished and versatile astro-peared in 1957 the masterly pa-on his time – including a five-peared in 1957 the masterly pa-year stint as dean and the onphysicist, contributing to our per by "BFH" (i.e. Hoyle, the understanding of the structure late Willy Fowler and Geoffrey and evolution of stars, galaxies and Margaret Burbidge) on and the universe as a whole. As the build-up of carbon, oxygen an officer of the Royal Astro- and the heavier elements in the nomical Society and editor of its hot dense cores of highly evolved journal, he gave outstanding service to the astronomical community nationally and internationally. Many of his stu- star as a supernova. Tayler's dents now hold senior positions around the world,

Tayler was born and bred in Birmingham, went up to Clare elements near the "iron peak". College, Cambridge, as a scholar, graduating in 1980 and winning a share in the Mayhew Prize, for performance in Part III of the Mathematics Tripos. He worked for his PhD in theoreucal astrophysics with (Sir) Hermann Bondi as his supervisor. By then, after the work of Sir Arthur Eddington and others, the structure of chemically homogeneous stars was thought to be reasonably well understood, and descriptive of "main sequence" stars of different mass, such as the Sun and the bright white stars like Sirius and blue stars like Vega.

Attention began to be focused on stellar evolution, in the hope of explaining the origin of "red giants" such as the enormously extended star Betelgeuse. Such a programme of work requires the use of the powerful electronic computers which we now take for granted. Tayler said he was about the last person to tackle the equations of stellar structure with the aid just of a mechanical desk calculator. After a postdoctoral year at

the California Institute of Technology and Princeton, Tayler returned to England to work as Scientific Officer in the Atomic Energy Research Establishment at Harwell in 1955, There he wrote - parallel to but independently of Marshall Rosenbluth in the United States and V. Shafranov in the Soviet Union - fundamental mathematical papers on the problem of the "stabilised pinch", in twhich a perfectly conducting

cylindrical current bas its gross

instabilities removed by an axial magnetic field within

conducting walls. The hope was that the hot plasma in the current would be magnetically confined long enough for energy generation by the same hydrogen-to-helium fusion process to occur on Earth as in the Sun and stars. In the slow progress over the decades towards this long-term aim. Tayler's work on this and on cognate problems remains highly relevant: one hears reports of its being rediscovered by young workers unfamiliar with the literature.

In 1961, Taylor returned to Cambridge to work with (Sir) Fred Hoyle on nuclear astro-physics. Following Hoyle's pio-prolix Photograph: Royal Society

D. F. Swift was one of a small

group of British sociologists

whose empirical and theoreti-

opportunity of a class-stratified

ociety. This was reflected in the

Newsom report, Half Our Fu-

ure, on secondary education

1963), the Plowden report Chil-

tren and their Primary Schools

1967) and in various govern-nent policy initiatives aimed at

Don Swift was born in a vil-

and grandson) of a blacksmith,

lleviating disadvantage.

IE age near Liverpool, the son

RAI vas educated at Si Mary's Col-

al work illuminated the social

la impediments to educational

stars, to be distributed subsequently into the interstellar medium, e.g. during explosion of the contribution to this problem was a careful calculation of the relative abundances of the

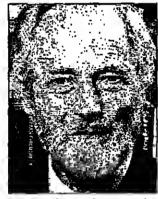
The importance of heavy element build-up as part of nor-mal stellar evolution is manifest from studies on "primordial" nucleosynthesis, which show that only helium and other light elements can form from hydrogen during the hot dense

"Big Bang" cosmology.

Belief in the Big Bang was revived by the discovery of microwave background radiation, announced in 1965. Shortly hefore this, Hoyle and Tayler had published a landmark paper, pointing out the importance for cosmology of observacions of the helium abundance in different objects. Both earlier calculations and their own in fact yielded a theoretical abundance somewhat higher than that inferred from observation. However, Tayler in particular stressed that the computations were sensitive both to the number of neutrino types and to the lifetime attributed to the neutron.

His words were prophetic: over the years, new measurements have steadily reduced the neutron lifetime to a value that appears to remove the discrepancy; and the realisation that the helium abundance could tell us the number of neutrino types has become a major link between particle physics and cosmology. In 1967, Tayler left Cam-

hridge to join (Sir) William McCrea in the build-up of the Astronomy Centre at Sussex, in collaboration with colleagues at the Royal Greenwich Observa-tory, then located in Herstmonceux Castle. Not surprisingly, he proved a very able administrator; but despite the heavy calls



teacher at the Cheshire County

Training College, Alsager, where he met his future wife. Enid.

After a period in secondary

schools, he returned to higher

education and at Hull Univer-

sity read Sociology. Following

PhD work at Liverpool, he took

up a teaching position in Cana-

da, at the University of Calgary,

and later returned to Liverpool, to a post in adult education.

of family background factors on

the educational performance of

schoolboys in Liverpool, was in-

fluential in the burgeoning field of sociology of education in Britain in the 1960s. With soci-

His doctoral research, a study

going supervision of many MSc and DPhil students - he maintained his research momentum, working in particular on stellar magnetism and on the chemical evolution of galaxies.

Tayler was a superb teacher, admirably clear without being prolix. This is apparent from the reading of his papers and review articles, and in his monographs which have a world-wide readership both among students and faculty: The Stars: their structure and evolution (1970); The Origin of the Chemical El-ements (1972); Galaxies: struc-ture and evolution (1978); and most recently The Hidden Universe (1991) and The Sun as a Star (1996), the last two heing written in the period of remission during his last illness.

He was also very generous with his time, especially to stu-dents. And on top of all his re-search activity, his service to Sussex University, his membership of Science and Engineering Research Council Committees, and his work for his local church and the parochial church council, he shouldered an immense burden on behalf of the astronomical

Over 20 years he served first as Secretary, then as Treasurer and finally as President of the Royal Astronomical Society (RAS). For about the same period he was managing editor of the society's Monthly Notices. Recognition of his services to astronomy came with his appointment as OBE in 1990, and recognition of his research with election to the Royal Society in 1995.

In 1989 Tayler was diagnosed as suffering from myeloma, forcing him to retire a year early from the presidency of the RAS. The technical expertise and dedication of the staff at the Royal Marsden Hospital, and the devoted support of his wife Moya, gave him a six-and-a-halfyear period of remission. With characteristically quiet courage and dignity he carried on teaching and research, even giving a lecture course after his official

Leon Mestel Roger John Tayler, applied mathematician and astrophysicist born Birmingham 25 October 1929; Scientific Officer/Senior Scientific Officer, AERE, Harwell 1955-61; Cambridge 1961-67: University Lecturer in Mathematics, Cambridge 1963-67; Professor of Astronomy, Sussex University 1967-94 (Emeritus): Gresham Professor of Astronomy 1969-75: Secretary, Royal Astronomical Society 1971-79, Treasurer 1979-87, President 1989-90; OBE 1990; FRS 1995; married 1955 Moya Fry; and steered it successfully

nal Sociology of Education Ab-

stracts, now in its 32nd year. fn

1966, he was appointed to Oxford University's Department of

Educational Studies, where his

advanced course in the sociolo-

gy of education attracted present

and future lecturers in the field.

But it was at the Open Uni-

versity, where he became a

Foundation Professor of Edu-

cational Studies in 1970, that his

concern for educational op-

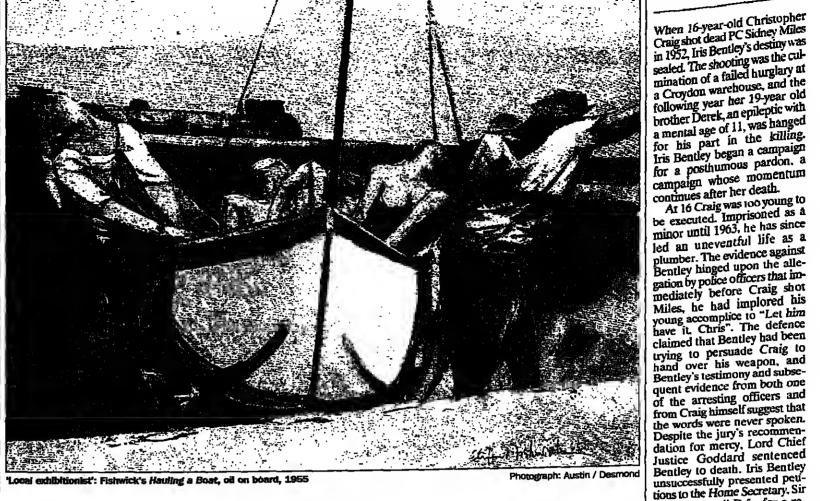
portunity found more practical

expression. He convened the so-

ciology of education group which contributed to the first

large-scale BA degree for non-

graduate teachers. Offered by



Clifford Fishwick

Clifford Fishwick was one of the group of talented West Country artists who extended the great tradition of English landscape painting into modern terms. He was a friend of the St lves painters - Peter Lanyon, Paul Feiler, Trevor Bell - and he exhibited regularly with the Newlyn and Penwith Societies. but like most of that group he had come to the West Country from elsewhere.

He was brought up in Ellesmere Port and never altogether lost his northerner's accent and sly, self-deprecating sense of humour. His first oneman show in London gave him less pleasure than the banner headline under which it was reviewed in the Ellesmere Port paper: "Local Exhibitionist".

Fishwick was a painter of great technical skill and discipline which he acquired the hard way at the Liverpool School of Art. In 1942, after two years of the rigorous academic training which was then required for Certificates in Painting and Drawing, he joined the Navy and spent the next four years sailing on convoys back and forth across the Atlantic.

He returned to art school, in 1946, to complete his training and take an Art Teachers Diploma, The following year, he moved to Devon and began teaching at the Exeter College of Art where he stayed until he retired in 1984. He became Principal of the College in 1958 died London 23 January 1997. | through its student troubles in

programme. The group utilised

an unconventional range of

perspectives, and its innovative

textbooks were used world-

wide on both distance education

and conventional courses in

higher education. As a Pro-Vice-

Chancellor of the Open Uni-

versity from 1976 to 1981, he

contributed to the establishment

of what was then a unique in-

stitution in its early years and

attracting international interest.

acquainted with the Asian-

Pacific region, for several years

directing distance education

programmes in Hong Kong for the University of East Asia,

During the 1980s he became

D. F. Swift

education, Edge Hill, in 1965 he means of a purpose-designed, initiated the international jour-structured "distance education"

1968 and an equally difficult

period of major expansion.

All the while, despite his teaching load and heavy administrative duties, he was painting steadily and prolifically. Cézanne and Turner were his heroes. From Cézanne he derived his feeling for structure, his ability to reduce a scene to its barest elements, particular-ly in the series of beach scenes he painted in the 1950s in which spiky figures tend boats in interlocking, tilted planes of mut-ed colour, representing sand and sea and sky. Later in his life, he painted big semi-abstract landscapes, all clouds and flickering light, which owe a lot to Turner. But, like Turner, he never lost the sense of place, of the specific scene hehind the swirling, heautifully handled

For me, however, Fishwick's greatest talent was his mastery of that peculiarly English medium, watercolour. Like Couman, he knew how to capture a scene and an atmosphere in a few delicate strokes and a wash of pale colour. He produced, literally, thousands of watercolours, ks of orea subtlety, but all done quickly, casually, like jottings in a notebook. He himself took this talent for granted and did not set much store by it.

His subjects were mostly mountains and moorland, the coast and the sea, but his feeling for them was not just painterly. He loved sailing and spent a great deal of time pot-

Macau, and lobbying for the es-

tablishment of such provision in

Hong Kong itself. In 1988, the

Open Learning Institute of

Hong Kong was established,

with Swift as its first director.

and he continued as a persistent

advocate for this new avenue of

opportunity in a territory which,

until then, had very restricted

access to degree-level study. The

Open Learning Institute (short-

ly to become the Open Uni-

versity of Hong Kong) now has

was to prove his final assign-

ment, as a consultant to the South African Institute for Dis-

In 1992 he undertook what

over 20,000 students.

British passport.

Rina Akhter, whom he married

in 1988, applied for a certificate

of entitlement for herself and

their two sons to join him in the

UK. Before that application was

granted, the Home Secretary re-

claiming that one of the two

boys was actually their nephew

and that the appellant himself

was not whom he claimed to be

Surah Ali Talukder.

tering along the south coast of Devon in his yacht Freyz, but he loved the mountains even more. I first met Cliff Fishwick, in 1956, at Bosigran, the Climbers'

Club but on the north Cornish coast west of St Ives.
At that time, Peter Biven and his brother Barrie were putting up a series of bold and elegant routes on the granite Bosigran Cliff and Fishwick was one of their team. He never pretended to Peter Biven's extraordinary strength and rock technique, but he was the ideal man to have second on the rope - unflappable, cheerful and as solid as the rock itself. The sketches he drew of the routes for Biven's 1968 guidebook were not only wonderfully accurate, they were also little works of art in themselves, sensitive and atmospheric.

After Biven's tragic death in a climbing accident in 1977, Fishwick's interest in rock climbing faded, but not his love of the mountains and wild landscapes. Right up until his death, he was out every weekend, tramping for hours across Dartmoor, and he spent his summers in the Highlands, climbing the Monroes. He and his son Mark used to sail from Comwall up to the west coast of Scotland in Mark's historic vacht Temptress. then Cliff would he rowed ashore, usually on his own, to knock off the peaks he had chosen for that season. He had already picked out the seven be planned to climb next summer to celebrate his 74th hirthday

South Africa offered a fresh

challenge upon which, by tem-

perament, belief and experi-

ence, Swift was ideally suited to

Don Swift was a compara-

tively private and unflamboyant

man. His "religion" was crick-

ct in which he was an active

team player each season, and his

general physical fitness makes his sudden and premature

Maurice Craft

death the more unexpected.

Denald Francis Swift, educa-

tionist: born Ince Blundell, Lan-

cashire 27 September 1932; Professor of Educational Stud-

tance Education. The huge educational problems of the new Pro-Vice-Chancellor 1976-81;

comment and advise.

when he suffered the stroke that killed him.

He was the least commercial of artists and be had a deep mistrust of galleries. It began with his first one-man show in London: all the canvases were sold, but the gallery went bust and he never got his money. His last London show was likewise a success and a disaster; the pictures sold but the gallery-owner committed suicide soon after. Fishwick, in his modest and laconic way, decided he was a jinx and made little effort to exhibit his work. He preferred to keep his paintings to himself. as though to check up on his progress, and when he sold them he sold mostly to friends, so that he always knew where he could find them.

Cliff Fishwick was one of the few people I know who lived a good life in the way he most wanted. He and his wife Patricia, also a painter, and their four children were devoted to each other, and he managed to comhine work and leisure to an extraordinary degree. He loved the hills and the sea just as much as he loved painting and he used passions together. That in itself is a great and rare achievement. A. Alvarez

Clifford Fishwick, painter: born Accrington, Lancashire 21 June 1923: Principal, Exeter College of An and Design 1958-84; married 1949 Patricia Fishwick (two sons. two daughters); died Exeter 22

prieve, and her hrother was hanged in Wandsworth prison in January 1953. Her career as a campaigner had begun. The symbolism of the clock in her home, stopped perma-

nently to show the time of her brother's death, cannot be understated, Iris and Derek Bentley were close - they had both heen buried in the rubble of their south London home during the Blitz that killed their 12year-old sister. Derek's death marked the hlossoming of a res-olute and skilled campaigner. who was always ready to present anti-death penalty arguments during the routine clamour for state vengeance that regularly hlights British politics.

Yet for many years her efforts on behalf of her hrother were ignored, before Derek Bentley's story seeped into the public consciousness via three books and a film, Let Him Have It (1991). Ably assisted by her daughter Maria, and despite failing health, she forced the police to reopen the case in 1992, resulting in the Home Secretary Kenneth Clarke's denying a reprieve. A year later, the Appeal Court ruled that Clarke had not fully considered all the options open to him, and his successor ael Howard granted a partial pardon that upheld the conviction, while acknowledging that the execution had been

wrong. This was hardly enough to placate Iris Bentley's quest for justice, and she continued the fight. In April 1997 Derek Bentley's case will he reconsidered by the Criminal Cases Review Commission, and as the result of new evidence presented to the Home Office last September, it is possible that a full pardon could be announced before the commission hears the case.

Iris Bentley's very presence, amidst an increasingly punitive law-and-order debate that has raged across five decades, has served as a reminder both of the state's potential for harbarism; and the criminal justice system's inherent fallibility. Indeed, if amongst the france clamour for punishment that in contemporary society passes for a law-andorder debate, some moments of reflection are spent considering the last 44 years of Iris Bentley life, a much wider definition of "victim of crime" becomes apparent.

Dick Hobbs

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Director, Open Learning Institute, Hong Kong 1988-91; consul-tant, South African Institute for Distance Education 1992-97; married 1957 Enid Wilkinson (one son, two daughters); died Johnnesburg 20 January 1997. | London 23 January 1997.

Iris Bentley, campaigner, born London 5 August 1931; died

Births, Marriages & Deaths

SIRTHS

UCK: On Tuesday 10 December 1996 to Fiona (née Dickinson) and Gary, a beautiful daughter. Sophie Grace ATSON: Mark and Janet Watson an-nounce the birth of Alexander Lawrence Stuart, 1 December 1996, hrother to Fiona and Harriet.

EATHS

JIO VR

GLIS: Grace Elizabeth, died on 16 January 1997, aged 84. Adored wife of Lestie, daughter of postal reformer Edwin Wells, who pioneered proposals for urgent and non-urgent (first and second class) mail in 1930. (first and second class) mail in 1990. Funcral service at St Michael and All Angels' Church, Blackbeath, at I am on Friday 7 February, followed by cremation at Eitham Crematorium. Enquiries to Funeral Directors Francis Chappell and Sons, 72 High Street, Elblam SE9 1BT.

Eltham SE9 1BT.
ETSON: Dr Kenneth, homeopath, suddenly on 25 January 1997. Cremation at Exerce & Devon Crematorium at 2mn on Saturday 1 February 1997. Single pink roses preferred. Memorial service later at Esmouth on late to be announced. Flowers to P. flurt, 16 Victoria Rd. Topsham. Exeter, SY 3 0FLI Femmires to Colin Waterh.

r GAZETTE, telephone 0171-293 2011.

Birthdays

ege, Crosby, and spent National ervice in the RAF Police, for a clogists at Liverpool University and a nearby college of

Mr Alan Alda, actor, 61; Mr Bobby Ball, comedian, 53: Mr Mikhail Baryshnikov, dancer, 49: Mr Acker Bilk, jazz clarinelist, 67; Mr James Callaghan MP, 70; Miss Enid Castle, former Principal, Cheltenham Ladies' College. 61; Sir Oliver Chesterton, chartered surveyor, 84; Mr James Cran MP, 53; Mr John Edmonds, general secretary, GMB, 53; Mr Michael Falcon, former chairman, Norwich Union Insurance, 69: Mr Glyn Ford, MEP, 47; Sir Anthony Garner, parliamentary and public affairs consultant, 70; Miss Frances Gumley, television and radio producer and brandcaster, 42: Mr John Hughes, former Principal of Ruskin College, Oxford, 70; Mr Bill Jordan, general secretary, International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, 61: Sir Timothy Kitson, chairman, Provident Financial plc, and former MP. 66; Professor David Lodge, author and Honorary Professor of Litera-ture. Birmingham University, 62: The Rev David Morris, MEP, 67: Mr Claes Oldenburg, pop artist, 68; Mr Gordon Prentice MP. 46; Mr Nick Raynsford MP. 52: Maj-Gen Martin Sinnatt, former senior executive and secretary, Kennel Club, 69; Sir Trevor Skeet MP. 79; Mr tan Sloone, ambassador lo Mongolia, 59: Professor John Thvener. composer. 53; Mr

David Thompson, former chairman, Rank Xerox UK, 65: Sir Michael Weir, former diplomat, 72: The Rev

Barrington White, former Princi-

pal, Regent's Park College, Oxford. 63; The Right Rev James Whyte, for-mer Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, 77: Lord Windlesham, Principal. Brasenose College, Oxford, 65; Robert WvaII. rock musician, 52.

> Anniversaries Births: Charles George Gordon, general and hero of Khartoum, 1833; Sir Henry Morion Stanley, journalist and explorer, 1841; Colette (Gabrielle Sidonie Colette), author, 1873; Artur Rubinstein, pianist. 1889; Paul Jackson Pollock, abstract artist, 1912. Deaths: Charlemagne, Frank-ish emperor, 814; Sir Francis Drake, sailor, at sea. 1596; Sir Thomas Bodley, founder of the Bodleian Library, 1013; William Butler Years, poet and playwright, 1939; Reynaldo Hahn, composer, 1947; Herbert Ernest Bates, novelist, 1974. On this day: the Diet of Worms began, 1521; the US space shuttle Challenger exploded moments after take-off, killing six astronauts and a woman reacher. 1986; the Independent on Sunday was first published, 1990. Today is the Feast Day of St Amadeus of Lausanne, St Paulinus of Aquileia, St Peter Nolasco, St Peter Thomas and St Thomas Aquinas

ROYAL ENGACEMENTS Changing of the Guard

Hearsay evidence was admissible in immigration case (Lord Justice Staughton, Lord Justice Hobhouse, Lord Justice Hutchison) 1t December 1996

In determining the validity of a person's detention as an illegal entrant, the High Court was entitled to take into account all the evidence relied on by the Home Secretary, including such as might otherwise be inad-

missible at common law. The Court of Appeal dismissed an appeal by Saudur Rahman against the refusal of Mr Justice Collins, on 26 June 1996, to grant him a writ of habeas corpus. The court unan-imously dismissed the appeal on the point of law as to whether certain evidence relied upon by the Home Secretary was admissible. The court by a majority (Lord Justice Hutchison dissenting) also dismissed the appeal on the point of fact, that there was sufficient evidence to conclude that the entrant was

an illegal immigrant. through entrance clearance of-The appellant claimed to have been born in Bangladesh, inquiries about the appellant in had been based, was entitled to allowance for the weight to be

LAW REPORT

28 January 1997

the son of Abdus Somad, on 29 two villages. It was common July 1967. Abdus Somad had ground that the interview evi-British citizenship and was livdence thus obtained, if presented in admissible form and ing in the UK in 1989 when the entrant, expressing a wish to uncontradicted, would justify the conclusion that deception ioin him, was granted a certifihad been established to the reqcate of envillement to the right of abode in the UK. In Nouisite high standard. But without some of this evidence there vember 1990 he obtained a was insufficient evidence to In 1991 the appellant's wife,

support that conclusion. The appellant argued that the evidence of the village visits, in particular the interviews tendered by way of affidavits from immigration officers, was inadmissible in legal proceedceived denunciatory letters ings in this country because it was hearsay, and that the judge should not have taken it into account in determining the validity of the appellant's detention as an illegal entrant.

but a man named Mohammed The question of law was thus The Home Secretary acting whether a court, when inquiring into the truth of facts on which an administrative decision ficers in Bangladesh instituted

look at all the material on which the decision-maker legitimately relied, or only such evidence as was presented in strictly admissible form. Michael Shrimpton (Suf Awas, Luton) for the appellant; Mark Shaw (Trea-

surv Solicitor) for the Home Secretary. Lord Justice Hobbouse said it was common ground the gov-erning authority was Rv Home

Secretary, ex p Khawaja [1984] AC 74, and that where the secrutary of state sought to declare a person an illegal entrant, he must prove he was in fact an illegal entrant. The tenor of their Lord-

ships' speeches in Khawajn was an acceptance of evidence which did not necessarily meet the criteria of admissibility for a court conducting a trial. It was implicit that the court could take into account all relevant material, making appropriate

attached to it, which of course did not exclude the view that certain evidence should be disregarded if it was not worthy of any weight. The same conclusion was implicit in the judgments in Ex parte Miah [1989] IAR 559, and Ex parte Muse [1992] IAR 282. The original determination

(taking into account all material evidence) was either valid or invalid: the entrant either was or was not an illegal en-trant. If the entrant challenged the validity of the decision in the courts, the exclusion of otherwise inadmissible evidence might result in a valid decision being held invalid. That

could not be correct. The role of the court in these cases was to consider all the available material and to decide for itself whether it had been satisfied by the secretary of state that the applicant was an illegal entrant. The appeal on the point of law therefore

Paul Magrath, Barrister

the leader page

2002, and Major prepares for a sixth Tory term...

he spring of '02 has heen slow coming. Snow still covers much prospects rarely do – and the Irish of Keni, the eastern counties and Scotland. But it is only really in the last of these that the looming general election excites much interest. Scotland, in the grip of some of the worst weather for a generation, is clearly on the edge of electing its first Nationalist majority; the SNP leader, his "provisional cahinet" swollen by former Labour politicians, has already drafted his Declaration of Independence. The King is greatly worried, and has caused a flurry by making what many consider an overtly political speech on the subject - but most of his subjects are English and unconcerned. The "Scottish question" has been endlessly debated and now bores most readers and view-

ers rigid. For the Conservatives in England, the election is virtually a foregone conclusion. John Major's victory five years earlier destroyed Labour, and sent it into splinters, now standing as Socialist Labour, the New Democrats and Young Britain. But the leaders of the post-Labour parties - Livingstone, Cooper and Mandelson - have been unable to reach an election pact and will be lucky to scrape 150 seats between them. Despite the gloomy warnings of 1997, victory has kept the Tory tribe together and scattered its enemies.

The golden economic prospects held

prospects rarely do - and the Irish problem is unresolved. But terrorism is no more of a problem than through the previous decade - unpleasant hut containable. The Tories seem to have demonstrated that they can govern in perpetuity without alienating their core supporters. Admittedly, inflation and interest rates are both rising. But Mr Major says that this is a natural cause of the economic cycle - just like the lower inflation and interest rates of five years before.

European union, the great divisive issue of the previous decade, seems to have been resolved by the 1999 Ant-werp Congress. Politically, Britain is now 'out', though remaining as a member of the Continent's Economic Pact, a loose trading association. France, Germany and Italy are at the core of a new EU, which proclaims itself proudly and unashamedly to be "Europe - a nation in the making". Monetary Union is to begin in a year's time, following Germany's postponement, after a fierce Bundestag debate; but for Britain, that

is well off the agenda. Korean, Japanese and, increasingly, Russian and Chinese investors are deeply worried about what is known as "the English conundrum": whether the economic benefits of locating in a deregulated, low-interference econ-The golden economic prospects held out by Mr Major at the last election threats of being outside the EU. Since



ONE CANADA SQUARE CANARY WHARF LONDON EH 5DL TELEPHONE 0171-293 2000 / 0171-345 2000 FAX 0171-293 2435 / 0171-345 2435

Britain left it, the Union bas become distinctly more protectionist in tone, as higher unemployment and xenophobia from politicians persuades voters to hlame Asia and America for their woes. French and German ministers have warned Samsung and Nissan about their "unfriendly" policies, and the new Toyota Glih one-door saloon is to be huilt outside Madrid. There have been some serious defence industry blows. But few factories have been moved, and for as long as the conundrum is unresolved, Prime Minister Major is unlikely to receive much of

Unemployment, which fell as low as 4 per cent, is now rising again; this, too, the Government explains as cyclical. Low wages and insecurity, as well as the increasingly harsh anti-slacker rhetoric of ministers and commentators, have produced a steadily more aggressive underclass. Violent crime has continued to rise. Prisons are being built at an accelerating rate. There have been riots for the past two summers in London and most of the larger cities. Because of this, the mood of the country is less liberal, less tolerant, than before. Lord Tehbit has formed a pro-hanging pressure group

million signatories.

Middle-class voters are more concerned about the rising insurance costs of a private health system which has outstripped the NHS in many parts of the country. But schools, outside the control of local authorities, are generally less of a national talking point than they were in 1997. Paradoxically, given the anti-European Union stance of the Government, British schooling is rather more like the French system: more centralised, uniform and traditional in style than before.

Following the Prime Minister's personal agenda, much more is being spenr on sport and on military training. This gives Britain a slow but encouraging rise in its world ranking in team sports, but has also produced a rather more practical and ruthless class of teenage burglar.

Local government has subsided. With most services either centralised or privatised, voting and support for the town ball has fallen even below its low level in the Nineties. Central goverament now runs not only schools and colleges, but takes most transport, planning, urban regeneration and housing decisions of any significance.

To co-ordinate all this activity, the Environment Secretary, Neil Hamilton, announced the creation of powerful county and city bosses, reporting directly to ministers, in 2000. To begin

which has attracted the support of five with, these were simply called local commissioners. After intervention from the Deputy Prime Minister, Michael Portillo, the Government took the bold step of reviving the political significance of the lord lieutenants; all counties and boroughs now have one.

As voters prepare for the election of 2002, therefore, they are better off than they were. The bleakest warnings of Labour's last leader have not been fulfilled. But people are uneasy about the future and unhappy about many aspects of contemporary Britain. Middle England is glad to be outside one union, the European one, and can tolerate the dissolution of the other union, the one with Scotland. The result, however, seems to be a country which, far from being more at ease with itself, is less resolved about its place in the world than it was five years earlier. This time, however, there seems little alternative ...

Is this o realistic sketch of Britain under another five years of Mr Major? Party propagandists on both sides will say no - that it is too apocalyptic, or not nearly opocolyptic enough. To us, scanning the main themes of the Chequers summit and other recent policy speeches, it seems o plausible one, which highlights the dangers ond the opportunities of five more Tory years. We shall see. Or, much

• LETTERS TO THE EDITOR •

Sanctions hit **Iraqis** but help Saddam

Sir: The Iraqi people face a situation that is close to starvation. Whoever is responsible, Saddam Hussein or the United Nations (letters, 20, 25 January), we cannot turn a hlind eye to what is happening to millions of innocent people. We argue against the continuation of sanctions for the

following reasons. Sanctions, which are by definition imposed to create hardship, cannot be implemented in a manner which spares the vulnerable. It is against the spirit and letter of article 38 of the convention on the Rights of the Child (UN, 1989).

Sanctions have resulted in a crime explosion which the government is trying to control by decreeing new barbane punishments.

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The sale of a limited amount of oil to pay for food and medicine imports under Security Council resolution 986 will result in only very limited henefits to the ordinary Iraqi. Although this amount would certainly help the needy. implementation of this resolution would result only in prolongation of sanctions, with most of the population still in poverty and most families receiving less than the minimum daily food requirements. At the moment the government food ration provides two-thirds of energy needs. The implementation of resolution 986 will not significantly improve this situation.

Sanctions have weakened Iraqis will for change and their ability to rise up to overthrow the dictatorship. The argument for lifting sanctions is overwhelming on both a simple humanitarian level and a political one. It is the Iraqi people, after all, who will decide Saddam's fate.

Evidence indicates that a democratic Iraq is not on the West's agenda: a weakened and unthreatening Iraq is. Dr MOHAMED AL-RUBEAI Iraqi Victims of War Appeal London W6

Sir: Eric Berman (letter, 25 January) may be director of UN Watch, but he cannot have read the recent reports of the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation, the World Health Organisation and Unicef on the continuing effect of sanctions on the Iraqi population.

To argue that the UN Security Council has acted "with humane understanding" is injudicious. The criteria for the lifting of sanctions have repeatedly changed, and this has resulted in their prolongation for six-and-a-half years. In this period, 750,000 people have perished through lack of medicines and mahutrition.

Mr Berman is mistaken in assuming that the partial lifting of sanctions currently under way will bring notable improvement. Only \$1.06bn of the food-for-oil revenue over a six-month period can go on food and medical supplies. For the 18 million Iraqis under government rule, this amounts to \$9 per person per mouth. Before the Gulf crisis, Iraq imported two-thirds of its food; a recent UN report found Iraq would need \$2.2bn every six

months just to feed its population. Even more serious is the fact that only \$17m may go on essential infrastructure, such as chemicals for sewage treatment or parts for water pumping equipment. Most of the child deaths since August 1990 have been due to the inadequate sanitation system left after Allied bombings during the Gulf war. Mr



Berman hiames the continuation of sanctions on the refusal of the Iraqi leadership to destroy all the weapon the Security Council demands. However, international law is not made at the behest of the Security Council, and the states of the world did not sign up to a global tyranny. The powers of the Security Council were conferred upon it by the Charter of the UN, which recognises in Article 5I the "inherent" right of states to possess weapons. GLEN RANGWALA

Why London may regret Labour

Sir: The combination of Gordon Brown's recent statements and Glenda Jackson's articles has proved devastating for Londoners. Gordon Brown has announced

that there is no more money for London Transport and Glenda Jackson has made it clear that there will be a moratorium on roads and an end to support for new or extended railways. So under a Labour government you would have the double whammy of no money and oo lines - an end to hopes for Crossrail and the Cheisea/Hackney line, for East London Line extensions and Thameslink 2000 development; question marks over Croydon Tramlink and the Docklands Light Railway extension to Lewisham; no new river crossings, such as at Woolwich and Galleons Reach; and a full stop to works on the A40 and A13.

By contrast this government is offering Londoners real improvements in existing services. with £1.5bn core investment expected on the London

Underground over the next three years and new projects such as the Juhilee Line extension, DLR south of the river and tram links for Croydon, Wimhledon and

Glenda Jackson, in her article "Don't sell out the Tube" (18 January), says she wants to see a partnership with the private sector. So why has Labour opposed every such partnership we have introduced over the past 17 years? The next proof of our successful partnership will be the coming on stream of 106 privately financed Northern Line trains and the start of services on the Heathrow Express from Paddington.

JOHN BOWIS Minister for Transport in London Department of Transport London SW1

A clergyman confesses all

Sir: I confess. I was one of those 200 clergy telephoned by The Sunday Times for the random poll whose results you report ("Clergy forget Commandments," 27 January).

I gave yes/no answers to deep and complex questions about my beliefs, ranging from premarital sex and adultery, through the Virgin Birth and Resurrection, to the most Christian party leader. And when asked to recite the Ten Commandments, I resisted the temptation to open the Bible on my desk or the one in my computer, and recited them.

Regrettably I missed one out. The delightful researcher prompted me — "That's only nine." But I couldn't then remember which I had said and which I hadn't. She helped again: "It's a higgie." They are all "biggies" to me, so that

didn't help, and I said, "Put me down for nine out of ten." "It was "Thou shalt not kill"." she told me, before courteously ringing off. It was a very easy way for a husy, or lazy, journalist to create a story on a dull Sunday.

I feel much better now - not because I have confessed, but because with all the opportunities for research and reference The Independent also can't list the Ten Commandments. You omitted Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy."
As I try not to shop on Sunday,

I'm grateful that you reported the story in Monday's paper. Rev STEPHEN LEEKE Warboys, Cambridgeshire Report, page 3

Cars? No way

Sir: Roger Bell implies that all bridleways are open to motor vehicles ("Why go on all fours?". 2: January). Bridleways are legally open only to horses, pedal cycles and pedestrians. Even borsedrawn vehicles are banned unless given permission by the landowner. Motor vehicles are legally permitted on unclassified roads and "byways open to all traffic".

J HOWELLS Willington, Derbyshire

Educate young taste buds

Sir: I read with interest the debate on children eating their greens ("Eat those greens", 24 January; etters, 23, 24, 27 January). I am a nutritionist with two children aged seven and four. I succeeded in both cases, and this is how I think it worked.

They never touched a jar of baby food. From breast-feeding they were weaned on simple, bomemade foods - puréed apple, carrot or rice - then the same food as we ate. All meals eaten at home are a family occasion. Nowadays they eat most

vegetables and fruits. Sometimes they go off one or another for a time, and we don't insist. We had a few very short-lived battles in the early days, solved by making them eat the vegetable first before moving on to the rest of the meal. There was no question of disguising taste - this does not solve the problem. We were absolutely consistent and the battles didn't last. They never starved themselves in retaliation,

Food and drinks aimed at children are very high in sugar, salt, flavour enhancers etc, and dull their taste buds. Thereafter children enjoy only more of the same. The sad results are to he seen in menus for children in restaurants. Why not simply share an adult main course? Taste buds deserve education, as does the ear for music or the eye for

art, and perhaps more so because long-term health depends on it. Dr LAURENCE VILLARD

Sir: Emma Haughton and her partner's methods to get children to eat greens were traumatic for all the family.

There is a gentler but longer-term method, which starts by introducing the wonder of spring and summer growth. If a garden, allotment, suitable patio space or even a window-box is available, spring onions, lettuce or radishes can be grown. The involvement of children from as early an age as possible is to be encouraged.

The best way of getting children to "eat greens" is to involve them very gently in their production. KEN MOORE Milton Keynes Buckinghamshire

Virtually safe?

Sir: A great deal of space and time is being given to telephone banking and other developments likely to lead to the closure of high-street banks, but I have yet to see any mention of the future of a very important service which these establishments provide: providing safe storage for valuable items such as jewellery and confidential

papers.

Many thousands of people are prepared to pay a small fee to ensure that items such as these are safe but reasonably accessible. Will someone please tell us whether this service will still be available in the future, and if so bow it will be

JKC HENDERSON

Quick march into the past

Sir: On hearing of the Government's latest initiative to encourage school cadet forces (report, 23 January: letters, 24, 25 January) I was reminded of a turn of events some 38 years ago, when I was a 16-year-old member of a grammar school cadet force.

Up to this time, my friends and I had obediently complied with the CCF training, looking on it as a reasonable preparation for National Service. As soon as the announcement came that compulsory service was to be discontinued, rendering the training quite irrelevant, a large number of us suddenly realised our disgust with gun culture, and left the CCF forthwith.

Were we wimps, presagers of Sixties' flower power, or teenagers rebelling against our fathers' traditions? I feel that we had it

RICHARD TYACK High Barnet, Hertfordshire

Sir: Some 60 years ago I was a squaddie in an Officers Training Corps unit, the predecessor of today's Combined Cadet Force at a

minor public school, Mill Hill. I remember being hauled out of hed at a badly early hour to climb into rough, ill-fitting khaki uniform and take hold of a First-World-War rifle almost twice my weight, and then to be bullied around the school yard.

"Left, right, left, right. About urn," shouted the little bugger who had earned sergeant's stripes, and who was also head prefect. This nasty young bully later beat me with his prefectorial cane (a thing allowed in those days) because he claimed that I had acted in an importunate fashion by "singing too loudly" when he had ordered his platoon to march to the sound of good old military songs such as

Tipperary .
I have remained eternally grateful for my experience in the OTC. It taught me an abiding contempt for mindless, petty authority. DONALD GOULD

Sir: There is a strange belief current that soldiers and military cadets are better behaved than ordinary people.

On parade, the average soldier is a model of discipline, respect, and mindless obedience. Off duty, however, he and his loyal teammates bave been known to cause unseemly disturbances, to speak disrespectfully of their betters, and to nick whatever is not nailed

Some of the arguments advanced in favour of persuading adolescent boys to pretend to be soldiers are redolent of the

Thirties.
In the new world of peaceful negotiation under a nuclear umbrella, Britain needs schools full of army recruits as much as Switzerland needs an expanded

MAURICE HILL lavea, Spain

Sir: What kind of people are running this country? First short, sharp shocks, then boot camps, and now military training for

schoolchildren! Ten years down the road, do we see Nuremberg-style rallies for our schoolboys? And what have they in mind for the girls?

Are these people mad, or just dangerous? EJL THURGOOD

Great Banon, Suffolk

Post letters to Letters to the Editor, and include o daytime telephone number.

Fax: 0171-293 2056; e-mail: letters@independent.co.uk).

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Leatherhead, Surrey

It is 30 years since

pioneering work of Christiaan Barnard is almost routine but still miraculous for those lucky enough to receive a new heart, lung or liver. Yet the reasons why some are chosen and others are turned away remain shrouded in secrecy. It is extraordinary that those refused a transplant typically accept the decision without rancour. They certainly do not contest it publicly. And then, usually, they die.

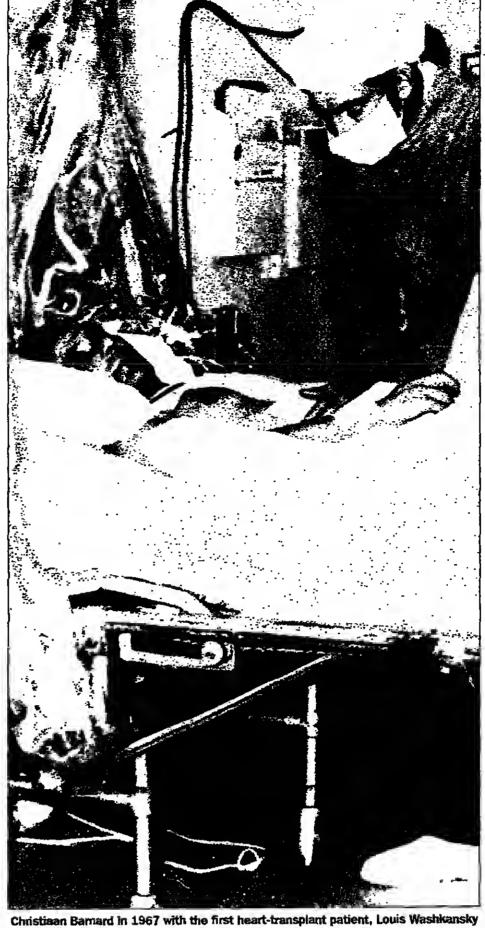
The case of 15-year-old Michelle Paul, the teenage drug user who died after being refused a liver transplant, has, however, thrown a rare in determining which patients receive the small, limited supply of vital transplant organs - and who dies. Even now, few people appreciate the lack of rules governing these powers.

Christianity's God promises eternal life if you ahide by 10 clearly defined commandments, but there are no such national guidelines to inform a dying person what is required to qualify for a new liver, heart, lung or kidney. Without such rules, it is difficult to seek judicial review of a doctor's decision. So unless transplantation from pigs is perfected and offers a plentiful

supply of replacement organs, patients must place their hopes in the paternalistic hands of the doctors whose preferences control this

particular lottery.
You might think qualification depends on being next on the waiting list or on being seriously ill or on being young or having dependent children. Doctors certainly consider these factors. They take extremely seriously the responsibility of deciding hetween competing claims. But there is no formal points system, which, though imperfect, would at least be transparent and contestable. In practice, the final decision is left to a doctor's discretion by the United Kingdom Transplant Support Services Authority, a doctor-dominated body which oversees the system for the NHS. Doctors alone decide

whether someone is even put on the waiting list. There is, therefore, little to prevent a surgeon from choosing to give little Johnny a new liver because his dad is an old friend from university and the surgeon couldn't possibly let him down. If a surgeon behaved in this way, the public would not discover his reasoning because there is no legal requirement upon doctors to explain why they gave one patient an organ and turned down another. The authorities judge that such decisions - and even the people who make them - are best kept out of the public gaze.



This hidden, unaccountable world is typical of a health service that refuses to involve the public from professional judgement. For example, in the rationing of health care. ft has disturbing echoes of Michael Crichton's 1978 fantasy thriller Coma in which comatose patients are used as donors for organ transplants. At the denouement, Richard Widmark, the chief surgeon at the centre of the plot, protests that he and his colleagues behave like gods because neither the public nor politicians are willing to face the hard issues raised by medical advances.

his much is certainly true of the British transplant programme, according to a research project just completed during a British government-sponsored Atlantic Fellowship by Jeffrey Prottas, Professor of Public Policy at Brandels University, Boston. Dr Prottas has discovered that there is no easy way to check that organs are being used equitably. Socioeconomic data on those given organs - and those denied - are not collected. So we do not know if selection for transplant is biased in terms of race or class. One can only rely on a suspicion that a system run largely by white, professional men will, however inadvertently, benefit their

group disproportionalely.
"At a local level", says Dr Prottas, "there is no public oversight of what happens to organs. Who's next depends on the physician in charge who may vary from day to day. So Dr Small might have a different set of priorities on Thursdays than Dr Jones does on Fridays.

"The system works. I have no reason to believe that bad decisions are being made under what people in the transplant world call the 'club rules'. And the outcomes in terms of survival are as good as, for example, the United States. But

maybe the husband of a senior colleague needed the transplant, so something had to happen."

A further problem with the British system, says Dr Prottas, is that it is difficult to tell whether transplants. There is little requirement on regions to share non-renal organs, except in an emergency. (One out of every pair of kidneys collected must be offered into a national pool.) So if you live in an area where relatives are reluctant to permit organ donation or where the health authorities are poor at procurement, your chances of survival may be considerably lower when your liver fails than for someone living elsewhere in the country.

The death of Michelle Paul suggests that the UK transplant system, which has long worked within a cosy professional consensus, may be fragile. Like the blood transfusion service, it relies on the trust of the public, which is the source of donated organs. If that trust falls apart, rieving relatives may in future be less generous

with the remains of their loved ones. That danger has already been faced in the US where there are now far more rules than in Britain to determine rights to a transplant. Last year, in a case similar to Michelle Paul's, a woman with Down's syndrome was refused an organ transplant hecause doctors judged her incapable of maintaining the lifelong drug regime required to prevent rejection. A public outery provoked a review which overturned that decision - it emerged that the woman, though retarded, held down a job and was responsible. Michelle Paul, before she died, had no such opportunity of a fair and impartial hearing.

Should those who abuse their bodies pay the price? by Glenda Cooper

isease generally begins that equality which death completes," said Dr Samuel Johnson.
But in the world of modern health care it seems

some patients are now more equal than others. The allegations made last week that a 15-year-old girl had been denied a liver transplant after taking ecstasy raised once again the moral question: if a panent is a smoker, a drinker or a drug abuser does that somehow make them less worthy of treatment than virtuous people

who have eaten their greens every day?

The details of Michelle Paul's case are not yet known, as the fatal accident inquiry has been adjourned until April when Ms Paul's surgeon, Hilary Sanfrey, will have the chance to testify. But if it does emerge that Ms Paul was denied the chance of a liver transplant solely on "moral grounds", because of her drug use, this will make us question anew the values we apply when deciding who

Drug users are not the first people to fall foul of implicit rationing in the NHS. In the past there have been claims that smokers and drinkers have been left at the back of the queue. In 1993 Harry Elphick, 47, was refused treatment for a heart condition because he was a heavy smoker, Consultants at Wythenshawe hospital in Manchester told him that tests to show if a by-pass was needed were not carried out on smokers. Mr Elphick quit his 25-a-day habit hut died a week before he was due to see doctors again.

Then in 1995 it was reported that transplant units were Then in 1995 it was reported that transplant units were under pressure to stop offering £60,000 liver transplants to alcoholics, after evidence from the US that most patients return to heavy drinking after the operation. By some criteria it seems a logical policy. The UK Transplant Support Services Authority reports that there was a 6,000-strong waiting list for all organ transplants at the beginning of 1996. By the end of the wear despite 2,750 taking place. of 1996. By the end of the year, despite 2,750 taking place, the waiting list had grown by 5 per cent.

So why should the rest of us pay for a new heart for

someone who has brought their condition upon themselves by puffing away on 40-a-day? Why should someone who regularly consumes three bottles of vodica a day - as Jim Baxier, the former Scottish football international who received two new livers was said to do - receive a new organ after bringing cirrhosis upon themselves? This is, after all, the real world where there are never enough organs to go round and the dangers of excessive drinking or smoking have been clear for years.

But to start rationing because of deviant lifestyles is a dangerous step. The General Medical Council felt the need to make its view explicit in 1995 when it issued revised guidelines making it clear that doctors "must not allow their views about a patient's lifestyle, culture, beliefs, race, colour, sex, sexuality, age, social status, or perceived economic worth to prejudice the treatment they give or arrange". The council added that doctors "must not refuse or delay treatment because [they] believe that patients' actions have contributed to their condition". The British Medical Association said decisions must be made on clinical need and "patients should not be discriminated against on the hasis of moral judgements".

Where, after all, do moral judgements leave us? There have also been allegations of discrimination and prejudice

against drunk drivers, gay men with HIV, women seeking abortions, people from ethnic minorities and the elderly. In the end, should dentists refuse to treat children who have persistently and defiantly eaten sweets all their lives?

If a smoker, a drinker or a drug user is unlikely to survive a complicated transplant operation then, in the real world, it is better to give the organ to someone who can benefit more. But to condemn them purely for their

habit and refuse to treat them on that basis is repulsive. Surely it is more important to encourage more people to pledge their organs for use after their death so the waiting list can be contained, rather than stigmatising people for their hahits. "Life unworthy of life" was, after all, the phrase used by the Nazis to justify the murder of 100,000 psychiatric patients in the run-up to the Final Solution.

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A defining moment in British history CANDIDATE

of filling in the time hefore the next election. One is to put your head in the sand and pretend it may never happen, as the Tories seem to be doing. Another is to shrug your shoulders and say that it won't make a lot of difference either way, as the electorate seems to be doing. And another approach is to get so terribly excited that

you even start speculating over what might be in the Tory manifesio, the approach preferred by the media. For the remaining handful of us who are determined to take this election seriously, ie

to look for a way of getting the Tories out without letting Labour in, I am providing a series of election guides of which this is the first a glossary of the main terms which you will be hearing in the run-up to the election.
ABSTAIN On election night it is

traditional to wait up and watch the results coming in on television. Occasionally it is fairly clear quite early on which side is going to win. but these days it tends to be a close-run thing, so you sit

up later and later with a glass in your hand which you keep refilling. The more you refil the glass, the hazier things get and you finally forget which one is Dr Mawhinney and which one is Vincent Hanna, and all the Dimblebys merge into one big Dimbleby, and finally you

roll into bed drunk but happy at 4am, and the next morning your partner says, "So who won?" and you find you can't remember. So when this election does finally come. it is probably hest to try to abstain on the night. **ADDRESS**

It is traditional for each candidate to send out a leaflet with his or her election address on it. Oddly enough, the only address that is ever given in full is not that of the candidate but of the printer of the leaflet. ADOPTION

When a constituency party chooses a candidate, it is said to adopt him. This is so that later on, if the candidate fails, the party committee can send for him and say: I'm afraid we've got something to tell you. Jim. You're not our real candidate. You're only



Miles

Kington adopted. So we are kicking you out. Sorry."
BLOOTERED A Scottish word for not abstaining. BROAD CHURCH Whenever a party is accused of lacking unity, it defends itself by saying that it is hig enough to risk disagreement in its ranks and is not afraid of debate, unlike the other side. It then says: "We are a broad church." If it means anything, this means that they are broad-minded enough to

accept agnostics and atheists

if things get had enough.

A person who wants to become an MP, and is therefore by definition a hit of a loony, is called a candidate. If he or she succeeds in becoming an MP, they will be sent to a large home for the incurable in London called the House of Commons where they can mix with others suffering from the same delusions. Note that a candidate never describes himself as simply a candidate. He always calls himself "your" candidate. Hello, f am your Tory candidate," he tells you. This is untrue. He is not your candidate. He is the Tory party's candidate, and if elected he will not become your MP - he will become the Tory party's MP. CLARK, ALAN We shall be seeing a lot more of Mr Alan Clark in the

election run-up. Among other things he is the first Tory candidate in history who has ever been selected on the grounds that he will get a good diary out of the next parliament. He has been chosen for what is described as a "safe Tory seat", a concept which has otherwise

meaningful discourse, and will therefore have more time than most Tories to go on radio and TV. He is also believed to be the first Tory candidate to be chosen for his age, which is 69. In most candidates this would be thought to he over the hill. hut in Clark's case it is thought to be a good sign that he is now too old to chase the girls, or at least to catch them. CONSTITUENCY As election night rolls on, this becomes the hardest word of all to say. As a matter of fact, people who are auditioned for the presentation of Election Night Special have to drink two stiff whiskies and then say "The Chichester constituency" three times without a mistake, DEPOSIT A small mark on a ballot paper which leads to it being deemed a "spoilt vote". Next time we shall range even further into the alphabet, aiming to reach such landmarks as "elder statesman", "fringe cundidate" and "spin doctor". Start collecting now!

صكنا من الدعل

Michael Portillo misjudged politics and public

Should those who abuse their bodies pay the price There used in he some-thing called the New Right. It didn't mind being a divisive farce within British Conservatism. Indeed it wasn't really conservative at all, but radical. It imported some of its ideas from the United States. Its figurehead, Margaret Thaicher, was never un-amhiguously New Right, hut many of her ynunger and most devuted followers were. Mosi of them had scant respect for institutions such as the Bar, the BBC and Oxhridge. Some of them were convinced liberiar-Dr Squale se ians. At least one present minister was an advocate of legalising heroin when he was, like Michael Portillo, a hackbench member of the Thatcherite No Turning Back group. And while they weren't remotely republican, they weren't misty-eyed ultra-monarchists, either. They weren't really all that interested in the subject.

THE INDEP

by Glenda Cooper

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But having hijacked the Tory hus for a decade or more, the most ambitious of them started to recognise that many of its passengers had other, more old fashioned, obsessions. The attempt by the pretenders of the new right to reconnect to the old right has been a submerged but important story of the last five years. It is surely part of why in 1994 Portillo started making the odd speech lamenting the disrepute into

which the country's ancient institutions, including the monarchy, had fallen. This was all the more striking because he came from the wing of the party which had shown the healthiest disrespect for tradition. And it was part, perhaps, of why John Redwood made the refitting of Britannia an eye-catching centre-piece of his 1995 Tory leadership campaign. All this reached a kind of zenith in the House of Commons on Wednesday, when Portillo delighted a wide section of his party, and appeared to trump his leadership rival Redwood, by announcing that Britannia was to be replaced, at a cost of £60m, from public funds.

Portillo has run into trouble on two fronts, First, he has been caught playing party politics with the monarchy. Which has upset the very Palace courtiers the announcement was designed to please. He might just have escaped that charge – witheringly levelled by Sir Edward Heath yesterday – had he not made the revealing slip on Sunday of gloating that Labour had been "wrong-footed".

Secondly, he has misjudged public opinion. The poll commissioned immediately after the TV royal dehale two weeks and showed large.

TV royal dehate two weeks ago showed large other hand, that polling - and rudimentary polling carried out since Portillo's announcement - suggest that most people still think the Royal Family costs the taxpayer too much money. It's all very well saying airily that £60m is just small change to the Treasury. To most ordinary people, innocents as they are, it sounds like rather a lot of money.

It is is easy to put this down to mere misjudgement; goodness knows Portillo has shown



Donald Macintyre

Politicians have a habit of going wrong when they try to be what they aren't

questionable judgement before. The gruesome, stomach-turning speech in the 1995 conference trying - and spectacularly failing - to incorporate the SAS as the military wing of the Tory party was only nnc of sev-

But he had seemed to settle

down. His conference speech last year was a model of statesmanlike duliness. He can't simply be patronisingly ter nff as a callow and inexperienced politician. It's not only that he is one of the most intellectually capable British ministers; the reputation he has since rebuilt at the Defence Department is all the more remarkable given the damage he did himself with the SAS speech. Whether it will be undamaged by this latest episode remains to be seen; can the hard-pressed Chiefs of Staff really want the running costs of the yacht in be financed nut of the Ministry of Defence's own hudget - an idea thought decadent by the former defence minister Alan Clark? It's hardly

an example of Front Line First. The answer is surely at once deeper and more serious. Politicians have a hahit of going wrong when they try to be what they aren't. There is a farmidable case for saying that's just Portillo's problem. And it's not only that coming from the stateshrinking wing of the party, Portillo had been a formidable

spender at the MoD - partly by securing the purchase of hugely expensive weaponry which many of his critics think is of doubtful value in the post-Cold-War era. One of Portillo's great potential strengths as a politician is that he is, like Disraeli, partly an outsider. With a Scottish mother and a hrave and distinguished Spanish republican as a father, Portillo has a arger perspective than many of his colleagues. Is the Tory party really so xenophobic that he has to submerge his proud Castilian origins in a sort of mystical Anglo-chauvinism?

The yacht may, in some form, be worth having. Hamish Macrae demonstrated here last week how it could be made to sweat financially in the national interest. But the euphoria that greeted the Portillo announcement harked back to an earlier era in which it was a symbol of a now obsolete imperial pride. The Queen herself, in 1994, made it clear that in the jet age she no longer needed it for travel. And here is the danger for Portillo, especially if he becomes leader of the Tory Party. The world he will seek to inherit will probably be very different. The monarchy may prove to be a rather powerful symbol of how, it's a safe bet will be in a slimmed-down, modernised form. The danger for Portillo, and the case of the yacht is only an example, is that rather like Anthony Eden in the Fifties he will be seeking the highest office just when the ideas with which he rose in politics have been superseded. Of course, it's true that the fault isn't Portillo's alone: the whole Cabinet took the decision. But Portillo wanted the credit. He must surely take

Keeping the royal hangers-on afloat

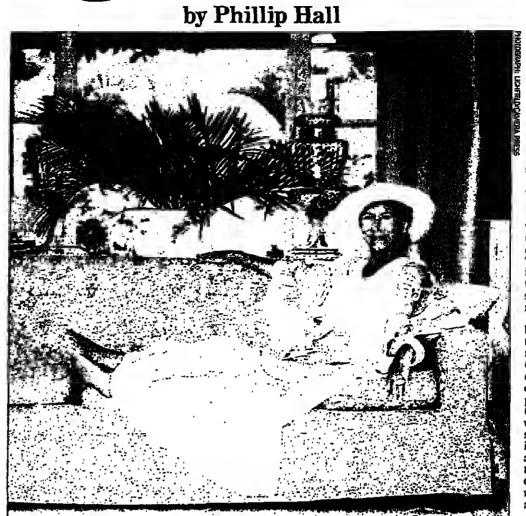
ichael Por-tillo's de-cisinn 10 spend £60m ment money on replacing the royal yacht Britannia really inuched a nerve - the public do not want to pay out for a new luxury yacht. This is why Labour opposition to the plan, a rare event these days, had stiffened by the weekend. Telephone polls are not trustworthy, hut the fact that all five did show overwhelming rejection seems to have convinced Blair and co.

Nor is the issue of public money one which attaches in the royal yacht alone. Much of the flak which the royal family has received has always concerned the cost of hangersnn. Far many this definitely included Princess Margaret, the subject of a documentary tonight on Channel 4, in its Secret Lives series. She has never been the most productive of royals - she always came near the bottom of the league table of royal activity. Even when the monarchy was much more popular than today, Margaret attracted Fergie-style attention for her holidays in the Caribbean, leading the former republican MP, Willie Hamilton, to ask: what is

Princess Margaret for? One gets a feeling of dējā vu. As with the 1992 Windsor fire, the Government has shown great enthusiasm to meet the costs from the public purse, whereas the majority of people think otherwise.

Then, attention was focused on the Queen's tax-exemption and the number of royals paid for by the Government from the Civil List. Within days of the Windsor fire, the Queen finally and reluctantly - after 40 years - agreed to pay taxes, except for inheritance tax, and to take Margaret, Andrew, Edward, Anne and the Dow-ager Duchess of Gloucester off the Civil List. Everyone nowadays seems to accept that the Queen pays £890,000 a year for or royals out of own pocket. Of this, £219,000 is for

Princess Margaret. So the Queen may be thought to have skirted around Willie Hamilton's question: what is Princess Margaret for? She is the Queen's sister and she, not the public purse, helps support her. However, the £890,000 for



If Margaret and co can't make do on their own, the Queen should pay for them herself

these royals comes not from the Queens private pocket hut from somewhere very different the Duchy of Lancaster.

There is much confusion over the status of the Duchy, whose annual income of £5.35m goes to the Queen. That she draws this revenue suggests that it is her private property, yet when the Palace calculate her private wealth they never include the 51,150 acres of land and £32m of investments from the Duchy. Also, the Duchy, if not on a daya government minister.

At the moment it is Roger Freeman who carries the title of Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster (his main joh is Min-ister for Puhlic Service in charge of Civil Service Reform and the Citizens Charter). So it seems strange that the money does not go to the Government, detached from the monarchy,

as is the case with the profits of the Crown Estate. Over the last 200 years, all

manner of leading politicians have maintained that the Duchy and its revenues really belong to the public. These include Edmund Burke, Lord Palmerston, Lord Brougham, Sir Charles Dilke, Clement Attlee and many more.
The Duchy of Lancaster's

origins go back to 1265, even further in time than the Duchy of Cornwall, a higher-profile goes to Prince Charles. Monarchs had for hundreds of years treated the Duchy of Lancaster's rents, along with tax revenue, as money for the business of government, not as a fund for personal expenses. So it is an anomaly, now that goveroment finance is totally

that its profits did not pass to the Treasury.
The Duchy revenues would have been transferred to the

public purse in the last century, if William IV in 1830 had not dug in his heels and simply refused to hand over the income. The government of the day gave in, vainly hoping to get William not to use the royal prerogative to block the Reform Bill to extend the vote from its then extremely narrow hase. They were unconvinced expediency. He did not return the favour, and in the end did

his best to block the Bill. A government attempt at taking back the Duchy in 1860 came to nothing. It probably backed down in face of oppos ition from the recently widowed Oueen Victoria.

Yet the ties to government

remain. The Duchy, whose headquarters are close to Waierloo Bridge in London, requires Treasury approval for many of its financial decisions. In this respect is has the same relationship with the Treasury as other government departments. It also has to submit accounts to Parliament, again showing that it is hardly a private posses-

sion of the Queen. Even Kenneth Clarke, when he was Chancellor of the Duchy in the late Eighties, confessed that a "private estate" which was regulated like a government department, "puzzles me". The solution to the puzzle is that this is not money that should legally and constitutionally go to the

monarch. Princess Margarei also lives rent free at Kensington Palace, which is maintained at public expense. Other perks, such as her clothing allowance for offi-cial royal tours abroad, are paid for by the Foreign Office. In June 1995, a oneweek visit tn San Francisco seemed to require a clothing account for that visit alone of £7,200 - more than those at the bottom end of the income scale might spend on clothes in a lifetime.

However, it is the Duchy revenue which is the higgest loss to the taxpayer. If Margaret and co plus the Queen's cousins - who from an earlier date were put on the Duchy payroli cannot make do on their own, the Queen might pay

for them from her own pocket. This is, in any case, what people think already happens Estimates of the Queen's

wealth in stocks and shares vary, from the Palace's own £70m to mine of more than £400m. Even on the lower figure she can afford to keep them above the poverty line, especially as some of these royals are hardly urgently in need. when they or their spouses already earn an income as company directors, and also have

If our prospective iron chancellor, Gordon Brown, can show some resolve towards the royal yacht, he should do likewise and make plans to take back the Duchy of Lancaster.

Phillip Hall is author of 'Royal Fortune: Tax, Money and the Monarchy (Bloomsbury).

No passport, no job

A new law dictates that employers must also be immigration officers. By Camilla Palmer and Alison Stanley

Beginning this week all employers, even those employing only one individual (such as a nanny) will take on a new role – that of immigration officers. The Home Office denies this, saying that the company of the compan responsibility for immigration control remains firmly with the Immigration Service". Yet the new Asylum and Immigration Act 1996 in effect imposes an obligation on employers to carry out checks on all job applicants to see if they are allowed to work in the UK. Although these checks are not compulsory, if employers do not carry them out they risk a fine of up to £5,000 if it transpires that an employee has no right to work in the country.

Employers will not commit an offence if they check, before hiring someone, that she or he has a right to work in the UK. This is done by asking for one of a number of specified documents, for example a passport or other travel document, birth certificate or document stating the person's national insurance number. However, it is often very hard to work out from these documents whether a person has the right to work.

The quantity of documents is extensive and employers may decide to rely on national insurance numbers. However, as national insurance numbers have been issued to a large number of people who do not have an unqualified right to work in the United Kingdom, a national insurance number alone will be insufficient in certain cases. The most obvious example is the working holiday-maker category. Thou-sands of young people come to the UK

every year in this capacity.

Working holiday-makers are Commonwealth citizens, aged between 17 and 27 who are given permission to work in the UK for up to two years, "incidental to their holiday". This phrase is not elaborated in the Immigration Rules, nor is it clear from the passport stamp given to a working holidaymaker, but people on this category are meant to work only part-time, or on a casual basis. If they work full-time, they should only do so for half of their stay in this country.

the basis of their race, colour or nationality. For a government that champions deregulation, the obligations of the Act impose an extra and potentially costly bur-

One of the main dangers in this unnecessary and oppressive piece of legislation is

Some people may consider it easier to interview and appoint only white applicants

that some employers will make an assump tion that white applicants have the right to work but black and ethnic minority applicants do not. There is a real risk of race discrimination, as some employers may consider that it is easier to interview and appoint only white applicants. Others may carry out a check only on applicants who they think do not have a right to work here. Employers who act on these assumptions will fall foul of the Race Relations Act. The starting point should be, as the Government itself acknowledges, that most people from ethnic minorities are British citizens and most non-British citizens from the ethnic

minorities are entitled to work here. The Race Relations Act outlaws discrimination on the grounds of race in the ners in London specialising in discrimination selection of employees. The Home Office and immigration law.

guidance points out that if an employer refuses to consider anyone who "looks or sounds foreign*, this is likely to be dis-crimination. It will also be discriminatory to ask people who look or sound "foreign", for their passports and people who look or sound "British" for their national insurance number. The only way to avoid discrimination, advises the Government, is to treat all applicants in exactly the same way at each stage of the recruitment process. Employers who do not appoint a person in order to avoid having to carry out a check or who only do checks on white applicants will be breaking the law. And the consequences can be expensive. There is now no limit on the amount of compensation that can be awarded under the Race Relations Act. Some applicants have received substantial awards, one recently for £130,000 for unlaw-Racial discrimination in the workplace is

already rife. There is high unemployment among many ethnic minority groups, who are also denied training opportunities and promotion. There is a continuous stream of discrimination cases brought against employers for denying jobs, training, and promotion to people because of their race, nationality or colour. The employment provisions of the Asylum and Immigration Act 1996 are yet another barrier to equal

The Labour Party also believes that the checks will harm race relations, place fur-ther burdens on businesses and will be ineffective in tackling illegal working. Jack Straw, the Shadow Home Secretary, has said that the checks "will almost certainly be effective in limiting further the employment prospects of black and Asian people and damage race relations." He has pledged that a Labour government would not enforce the provisions. He should go further and pledge to repeal them.

The writers are solicitors at Bindman & Part-

Oh for a warm body to answer BT's phone

ritish Telecom has spared no expense telling us it is "good to talk" and now it is spending tens of millions of pounds teaching us how to talk good (so to speak) with its new TalkWorks programme. This is all about the art of conversation and its secrets can be found in a 94-page book that is being sent free to 20 million households.

Mine was not one of them so I rang British Telecom. "Good afternoon, welcome," said a voice and I realised this was not going to be a quick call. This is what the experts call an "interactive voice response" unit or IVR. So far, 38 per cent of all calls in western Europe are answered by these machines. The others get what they call a "warm body response", and that was what I wanted: a warm body to order my booklet from.

The Voice had other ideas and was already on a tangent, asking personal questions about touch-tones and telling me to hit my "star" key. This had to be a bad idea and yet for some reason - curiosity? hon-esty? frustration? - I did. Five options followed but none even got close to my request. "I'm sorry, I didn't detect a valid key press," said the Voice, and started repeating herself.

I rang back but - very daring this - did not hit the star key and waited for the warm body that surely must follow. To my horror, the Voice was back: "To use this service, you will be asked to speak your response." She ran through the same options. I refused to speak. She refused to react. I hung up because that is what you do when you realise you are having a fight with a machine. More calls, more voices,

musical interludes and wrong numbers. Finally a warm body put me on hold and came back with a Freephone number. This time I expected the Voice but it just kept ringing. I hung on, charting emotion as follows: irritated at ring 10, frustrated by 20, angry at 30, seething at 35 and amused and amazed at 40. By the time a warm body answered on the 47th ring, iust said "hello" and asked for

TalkWorks has lots of tips for being loving giving, caring, sharing. It advises us on being a good storyteller, a good understander (sic) and how to "give feedback". It says that we should "avoid the blame game and "make conversations like dancing - a two-way partnership with neither side

For most people this would involve five years of therapy, minimum. The Inuit may have at least 12 words for snow but the British are minimalists who have managed to make the from "I think you are an idiot" to "I think you are fabulous". Stiff upper lips do not make the best dance partners and there is some way to go before we are tangoing and not just tangled

(or even know the difference). Of course BT has even further to go. We humans can always keep on trying but machines couldn't dance if they tried.

Ann Treneman

GREAT VALUE WHICHEVER WAY YOU LOOK AT IT. 3 SEATER SOFA the Odeon range of furniture turns the principle of furniture buying on its head. Just look at this styfish 3 seater Charlotte sofa at only £449. But it makes sense too.Because you buy direct from us you avoid stumping up to pay for the overhead costs that the shops have to build into their prices. And we give you a 21 day money back promise and a 2 year craftsmanship & materials guarantee and FREE delivery anywhere in mainland UK.We wouldn't have it any other way. Tel. 01495 312312 or send for our brochure today.

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odeon Furniture Co., Gwalia Works	s, Factory Road, Brynmawr, Gwerr	t NP3 4D

Strong growth not enough to force rates rise

Diane Coyle Economics Editor

The economy's pace of growth picked up to the fastest for more than two years in the final quarter of 1996. But the fact that it was no stronger than expected led City experts to predict interest rates would not rise

this side of the general election. The service industries set the pace, with growth in husiness and financial services revisiting late-1980s rates. Construction also picked up significantly, while industrial output erew at a similar rate to the third quarter and agricul-

Analysts concluded that this

increase the cost of borrowing. Eddie George, Governor of the Bank of England, is expected to repeat this advice at the monthly monetary meeting next week - a week ahead

Report.
"The Chancellor and the Governor are both in an entrenched position," said Geoffrey Dicks, an economist at Nat West Markets. "But Mr Clarke has got more on his plate than worrying about the inflation rate at the back end

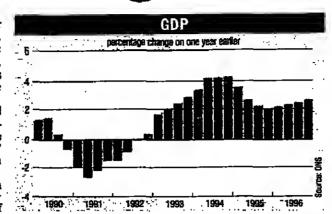
of the Bank's quarterly Inflation

Gross domestic product (GDP) increased by 0.8 per was not huoyant enough to cent in the final quarter of last

force Kenneth Clarke to accept year, taking it to a level 2.5 per Bank of England advice to cent higher than a year earlier cent higher than a year earlier. Excluding North Sea oil, the quarterly rise was 0.7 per cent. GDP in 1996 as a whole was 2.3 per cent higher than the

previous year. Throughout the length and breadth of the country households are enjoying the benefits of healthy economic growth," Mr Clarke said, commenting on the figures.

Speaking on BBC television on Sunday, the Chancellor played down suggestions of disagreements between himself and Mr George. "I'm not going around thinking I'm infallible. The differences between us have not heen enormous,"



Details of the hreakdown of rowth are sketchy at this preninary stage, but the Office for National Statistics (ONS) indicated that growth was strongest

in the service industries. There total output was up 0.9 per cent. reaching a level 3.4 per cent higher than a year earlier. Growth in business and financial

their recent range of 1-2 per cent a quarter, making it similar to the pace set in 1988.

Within finance, the strength was concentrated in banking. Within business services, computer services and areas such as law, accountancy and management consultancy were the most buoyant.

The construction industry expanded by significantly more in the fourth quarter than it had in the third, according to the ONS. Although the gains were spread across sectors, househuilding was especially strong.

The statisticians estimated that manufacturing and industrial output had grown by about as much in the October-

services was at the upper end of December quarter as they had in September to November. Figures published for that period show growth of 0.6 per cent and 0.4 per cent respectively. Many City economists reck-

oned yesterday's figures, com-bined with signs of weakness in manufacturing due to the strong pound, meant Mr Clarke would be right to postpone a rise in in-terest rates. Others say the re-covery is gaining strength and could trigger higher inflation unless the cost of borrowing rises. With economic growth set to ac-celerate further during the course of the year, we expect interest rates to rise significantly in 1997, said James Barty, UK economist

at Deutsche Morgan Grenfell.

Steel sells TITE **BSF** for £74.5m in strategic **U-turn**

Chris Godsmark Business Correspondent

British Steel yesterday announced what amounted to a strategic U-turn with a £74.5m deal to sell its forgings business, British Steel Forgings, which makes a wide range of products

for the engineering industry.
It comes just two years after
British Steel bought out its partner in the division, the car parts group GKN, arguing that the en-gineering steel business was now a "core activity". British Steel Forgings (BSF) was pre-viously part of a series of Gov-erament sponsored "Phoenix" companies created in the 1980s to rationalise an industry

dogged by huge overcapacity.
The latest deal involves selling BSF to a newly formed business, United Engineering Forgings, created and funded by the venture capital group Pru-dential Venture Managers. British Steel will receive £74.5m in cash, while Prudential has raised a total of £92m to fund the management huy-in and

pay for future investment. Prudential said the existing management of BSF would stay in place, but it had appointed Boh Baies as a new chief executive. Mr Bates was previously managing director of a subsidiary of T&N, the automotive components group. BSF's current chief executive, John Dawon, will return to British Steel.

BSF is a key player in the mar-ket for forged products used in the car and aerospace industries, with around half of the UK's forged steel manufacturing capacity. It has 2,100 employees at six plants and made a trading profit of £10m in the year to 31

March 1996 with sales of £157m. Prudential said it wanted to concentrate on increasing export husiness, despite admitting concerns over the recent surge in the value of the pound. It said the huy-in should secure jobs. though it could give the work-

force "no guarantees". In another apparent shift in direction. British Steel yesterday said it decided to sell off the company because "as a stand-alone downstream business" it was "somewhat removed" from its core steelmaking and rolling activities. However, the £93m agreement in 1995 to buy out GKN's 34 per cent stake in BSF's parent, United Engineering Steels, was viewed at the time as a move by British Steel into

higher value-added products. Like other "Phoenix" companies, United Engineering Steels was hit by fierce competition and declining demand during the recession, leaving GKN with losses of £60m on its original investment made in 1986.

Stagecoach held up by threat of **MMC** referral

Michael Harrison

Stagecoach, the acquisitive bus and train group, was stopped in its tracks yesterday after the Government warned it would he referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission if it was selected to run ScotRail, which operates rail services in Scotland.

John Taylor, the corporate and consumer affairs minister, took the decision after being advised by the Director General of Fair Trading, John Bridgeman, that a takeover would give rise to competition concerns in Scotland. The Government's announcement is unusual in that it is the first time a company has been blocked from taking over a passenger rail service before the franchise has been awarded.

The decision is a setback for Stagecoach, which is expanding aggressively from huses into

... share price, pence

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STOCK MARKETS

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trains as part of a strategy to increase turnover to £2bn by the end of the decade.

As well as heing Britain's second-higgest hus operator, the group already owns two rail franchises - SouthWest Trains and Island Line on the Isle of Wight - and the Porterbrook train leasing husiness.

Stagecoach is also one of the higgest hus operators in Scotland, running services in Glasgow, Aberdeen, Inverness, Fife and Perth. If selected for the ScotRail franchise, it would be the most powerful player in the Scottish transport market. ScotRail has annual revenues of £86m, just under 4,000 staff and operates 1,500 route miles between 327 stations.

A spokesman for Brian Souter, the chairman and cofounder of Stagecoach, said last night: "We are seeking an early meeting with the Office of Fair Trading. We would not

have started on the process of hidding for ScotRail if we had thought the problems were insurmountable

Stagecoach is in competition for ScotRail with the coach operator National Express, Prism, which is owned and run by a group of bus industry executives, consortium involving Go Ahead, another bus group, and the ScotRail management.

A spokesman for the director of passenger rail franchising. John O'Brien, said he expected to announce the preferred hidder for ScotRail in the next formight and award the franchise in the next four to six weeks. If Stagecoach is successful and its hid is referred to the MMC for an inquiry lasting at least three months then it could fall to a Labour government to decide whether to al-

low the deal to go through. Mr Taylor said his decision did not prejudge the franchising director's decision, nor did it prejudge whether a merger of agecoach and ScotRail would be against the public interest. "It would be for the MMC to report on this after investigation,"

A spokesman for the DTI declined to spell out precisely what its objections were other than to say that it was concerned about "numerous and complex potential rail and bus overlaps in the franchise area". Last month National Express

agreed to a series of undertakings to avoid an MMC referral of its takeover of another rail franchise. Midland Mainline. The Government was concerned about its domination of



Brake on the bid: Brian Souter, chairman of Stagecoach, is seeking an early meeting with OFT to resolve the ScotRail Issue

the market on coach and rail services between London and five cities in the Midlands and the North. However, the DTI spokesman said that in the case Stagecoach and ScotRail there were no undertakings that would be sufficient to prevent a referral.

It is not clear whether Labour would block the sale of ScotRail if it were in power when the MMC reported. Under the Railways Act, the Secretary of State for Transport is under a duty to privatise the railways. Were Labour to decide not to award the ScntRail franchise then it would probably have to amend primary legislation.

Stagecoach insiders said they found it odd the Government had decided to make a referral because local bus operations and long-distance rail services were separate and distinct markets.

In the case of its takeover of SouthWest Trains, one of the factors in its favour had been the way Stagecoach's hus branch lines knitted together with commuter rail services.

Stagecoach is also hidding for the five other passenger franchises still 10 he awarded -Central Trains, North West Regional Railways, Regional Railways North East, Thameslink and InterCity West Coast. Comment, page 17

Mr Souter's great railway journey

Dec 1995 - First move into the rail industry as Stagecoach is awarded seven-year franchise to run SouthWest Trains -Europe's biggest commuter railway with 200 stations and 4,000

July 1996 - Stagecoach buys the train-leasing company Porterbrook for £825m and announces that it will bid for all remaining British Rail franchises.

Oct 1996 - Starts operating rail services on the Isle of Wight after being awarded a five-year franchise to operate the Island

Jan 1997 - Stagecoach seeks urgent talks with the Office of Fair Trading after being told it will be referred to the MMC if it is awarded the franchise to run ScotRail.

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Prudential has also paid £25,000 in compensation to 6,000 disadvantaged customers. each. However, the final hill will rise as Imro's disciplinary tripay investigation and tribunal

problems with PEP schemes.

Indices

self-select and single-company products. Prudential stopped unii trust PEP.

A spokesman for Prudential said: "Imro's fine of £75,000 on Prudential Personal Equity Plans related to problems with reconciliation of PEP client bank accounts prior to 1994.

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Source: FT Information

"When they came to light, remedial action was taken and no customers were disadvantaged. Procedures were put in place to ensure these problems will not occur again. These problems were administrative. involving delays in crediting interest to customers' accounts.

The rules that were broken concerned provisions to ensure companies held the correct amount of money for clients and were aware of the individual sums of money held for each

including the failure between July and November 1993 to make up a deficit in its self-select PEP client money accounts. INTEREST RATES

Bond Yields *

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Morgan Grenfell outperforms pension fund heavyweights

turn, of 12.2 per cent. Morgan

has £934m under management.

be a small proportion of a man-

ager's total funds, but since

Their performance is publicly

Pooled pension funds tend to

Morgan Grenfell was among the top performers among hig name pension fund managers last year, while the controversial PDFM funds made a late spurt in the fourth quarter to regain a little of the ground they

Morgan Grenfell, employer of Nicola Horlick, the fund manager who quit this month. was in sixth place overall, bearen by several much smaller funds, according to a survey of pension funds by CAPS and the actuaries Bacon & Woodrow published today

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3.5 Lucas Vanty

measured by surveys they are used as shop windows for their companies. The survey also shows that

Scottish Amicable, which next week gives more details of its plans to demutualise, had well below average performance last Its rate of return was 8.5 per

cent, compared with the median of the 71 pooled pension funds surveyed of 10.7 per cent.

sion funds it showed the best re- held back by a negative rate of return of 0.2 per cent in the fourth quarter, compared with PDFM's growth of 2.7 per cent during the same period, taking PDFM's annual rate of return to 8.1 per cent.

PDFM has been under the microscope since Tony Dve, its 10p manager, took his tunds heavily into eash in the belief that the stock market was about to crash. Its rate of return remained near the bottom of the league table of large fund managers last year, even with the late spurt.

Nigel O'Sullivan of Bacon & Woodrow said PDFM's style of selecting stocks for value paid ScotAm's performance was dividends in the last quarter.

House of Fraser warns more jobs are in danger

Nigel Cope

House of Fraser, the struggling department store group, is to sell three stores and cut 1,000 iobs in a radical overbaul that will result in the group taking a £50m charge against this year's accounts.

The provisions, which also include heavy slock write-offs, will push House of Fraser deep into the red this year, John Coleman, who took

over as chief executive last year, said there would be no more store sales but would not rule out any further job losses. We can categorically say

that we will not he selling or closing any more stores. But on jobs this is the first stage of the review which covered management and administrative areas. We now move

unto phase two." The three stores that will be sold are the Army & Navy in Eastbourne, the House of Fraser in Sheffield and the Binns

store in Scunthorpe. Through huvers will be sought for the stores it is possible that they will be closed. This would lead tu another 300 redundan-

The break down of the provisions is £22m-£25m for stock write-offs, £12m-£15m for the job losses and a further £7m-

E9m for asset write downs and related costs. With the City forecasting

pre-exceptional profits of £14m for House of Fraser this year, the charges will push the group to a loss of up to £35m.

The group says the restruc-turing will lead to annual cost savings of £10m. Commenting on the overhaul, Mr Coleman said it would improve efficiency and trading performance.

"All elements of our strategic review are proceeding on schedule and I expect 1997 to be a year of real progress for House of Fraser." House of Fraser has store

openings planned for Notting-ham, Reading, Solihull and Bluewater in Kent over the next three years. It is likely that they will all carry the House of Fraser name.

House of Fraser also announced its Christmas trading statement yesterday. It showed that like-for-like

sales in the 26 weeks to 25 January were 6.1 per cent higher than the previous year. This included a strong per-formance just before Christ-mas and during the January

sales. Own-hought merchandise delivered only pedestrian sales growth of 3.9 per cent, Concessions sales were 10.8 per cent

House of Fraser shares. which were floated at 180p. closed unchanged at 142p yes



Imro, the investment regulator, has reprimanded and handed out a £75,000 fine to Prudential. the UK's largest insurance company, for breaching rules over the administation of some per-

which amounts to less than £5 bunal has ordered Prudential to costs which have yet to be set.

The company is the first to be reprimanded and fined for tmro said Prudential Personal Equity Plans had admit-

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FTSE SmallCap 2291,89

FTSE All-Share 2063.71

ted that it failed to carry out reconciliations and corrections of PEP client money accounts, failed to notify Imro that these had not been done and failed to have adequate compliance arrangements in place.

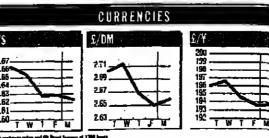
The problematic PEPs were marketing these products in 1993 after realising they were difficult to administer. Prudential continues to market a

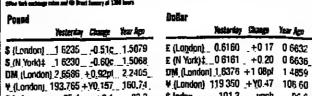
client at all times. Prudential faced six charges,

Peter Rodgers Financial Editor

had lost earlier in the year.

But of the larger pooled pen-





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The reaction from the Stagecoach camp was one of pained innocence. Take advantage of the

traveiling public? Who us? Can this be the same company that was found to be

acting in a manner that was "predatory, deplorable and against the public interest" when the

MMC paid a visit to

Darlington?

Brian Souter, the plain-speaking chairman of Stagecoach, attends monopolies inquiries like other company executives turn up for board meetings, in the rough, tough world of buses, where throttling the opposition and then cornering the market is the name of the game, brushes with the competition authorities are all part of a day's

Yesterday, however, Mr Souter, who has moved on from buses to trains, had a novel experience even for him. The Department of Trade and Industry has decided not to bother waiting and seeing if Mr Souter is awarded the tranchise to run the trains in his native Scotland. Instead it has already decided that if he does bag ScotRail to git with the two franchises he owns south of the border, then Stagecoach will be packed off to the Monopolies and Mergers Cummis-

Amusingly, the reaction from the Stagecoach camp was one of pained innocence. Take advantage of the travelling public? Who us? Can this be the same company that was found to be acting in a manner that was "predatory, deplorable and against the pub-lic interest" when the MMC paid a visit to Darlington to see the deregulated hus mar-

In the case of Scot Rail, the Office of Fair Trading and the DTI are not being too specific about possible grounds for concern, referring only to "numerous and complex rail and hus overlaps". But since Stagecoach

bet there is plenty of scope to be worried.

If the ScotRail franchise were to go
Sugecoach's way, Mr Souter would have his work cut out. Last year revenues of £86m were dwarfed by losses, (before subsidy) of £251m -- a loss of £168,000 for every mile of track Scot Rail uperates over.

But the higger political picture suggests it may not be Mr Souter's warry. The Government wants shot of all 25 passenger fran-chises come the election. A three-month MMC inquiry could leave the fate of Scot-Rail open in the whim of an incoming Labour administration. Since there are four other serious players bidding for the business, it would be simpler to leave it to one

Selling out could be the answer for ScotAm

[n just over a week, Scottish Amicable pul-Licyholders are to be sold in more detail exactly why their society has decided to embark on the most complicated demutualisation that has been attempted to date.

The plan has been almost universally panned, not least because of the handsome rewards the management has set aside for itself. Let's hope that next week's circular provides better answers than we've had to

ng their board the old two fingers.

ScotRail's fate could be in the hands of Labour

Cutting through the noise and confusion. what this proposal seems to add up to is an attempt to persuade with-profits policyholders to put some of their money into a new, geared-up life insurance husiness. Should they really he asked to take this risk?

It works like this. The with-profits policyholders own the company, which cannot expand because it is short of capital. So in steps Swiss Re and its affiliate, Securitas Capital, with an injection of capital. Since the new policyholders who are to be . recruited will not be owners, the profits derived from them will belong largely to the old policyholders (with 20 per cent for Swiss Re and Securitas.

The faster new husiness grows, the higher the rewards for existing policyholders when Scottish Amicable is floated, in other words, their 80 per cent stake in the husiness will not in future be diluted by the entry of new with-profits policyholders, thus gearing up the rewards on their equity. None of this disguises the fact that policyholders are being asked to take a punt on the management. whose track record to date has been an undistinguished one. The real question is why it requires demutualisation to achieve this.

it is, in fact, perfectly possible to gear up in this way inside a mutual society, as Friends Provident and others are already since the trough of the recession in early 1992

therefore dilute existing owners less.

The obvious answer to the question why - which Scottish Amicable answers in a deeply unsatisfactory way in confidential briefing notes seen by *The Independent* – is that the society is so short of capital that it cannot gear up its policyholders' investments

at all without outside help.
Others insurers such as London Life and Scottish Equitable have solved the problem by selling out altogether, and maybe that is the answer for Scottish Amicable. The management at ScotAm claims that this proposal will ultimately yield more, and that they would be selling at the bottom of the mar-ket if they followed the Scottish Equitable route. All the same, ScotAm and its advisers are asking policyholders to take an awful lot on trust. Without much better answers and explanations, the inevitable conclusion is that this is a plan designed more to benefit management than policyholders.

Ten years on, the yuppie is back

Here's a rather telling fact about Britain, for as John Major likes to describe his country, "the enterprise centre for Europe".

is the dominant hus operator in Scotland once again, its arch rival FirstBus having just had a nasty run-in with the MMC, it is a serious possibility of members given husiness that are not with profits and which is serious possibility of members given husiness that are not with profits and which is the way of the post five years has stemmed from demand for maids and nannies, GDP figures published vesterday by the Office for National Statistics suggest.

The growth in domestic service, up by a third in nearly five years, was closely followed by industries that the Government would be happier to boast about - air transport, computer services, post and telecommunications, business and financial services. But the numbers make a point we all

knew in our bones to be true. This recovery is being driven by the spending power of the likes of Nicola Horlick and other well-paid types in the professions. The vuppie is back, 1lt years older, still buying champagne and mobile phones, gazumping other would-be buyers of houses in smart parts of London, but opting for a Renault Espace rather than a Porsche and no doubt pumping money into private school fees.

It still counts as an economic recovery hut is this the kind of recovery that will win the Government a general election? Mori has yet to conduct an opinion survey of the voting intentions of nannies and maids. The outcome might surprise us all hut if domes-tic service is all that Britain's showpiece flexihle labour market can produce in the way of jobs, it isn't going to impress anyone else very much. Curiously, the flip side of the nanny society ~ hairdressing, facials, beauty parlours and the like - doesn't seem to be showing any growth at all.

US giant trumps FKI's bid for Newman Tonks

Patrick Tooher

Ingersoll-Rand, the US engineering giant, yesterday made a surprise entry into the banle for control of Newman Tonks by launching an agreed cash bid valuing the building products group at around £230m.

It is the second time in a week that a hostile bid in the normally sleepy engineering sector has taken an unexpected turn after William Cook, the steel castings group, unveiled plans to thwart a hostile bid by Triplex Lloyd

and take the company private. Ingersoll's 175p-a-share offer is being recommended by the Newman Tonks' board and trumps a hostile bid from FKL, a much smaller engineering tag on Newman. Shares in Newman closed 29p higher at 180.5p. Last night Ingersoll Rand

sought to turn up the heat on FKI by going into the market

1.00

2000

FKI, which already speaks for leaked last week, was not a get the higher price:"

mixture of cash and shares.

rental income to approximately £4m.

lo continue 10 improve during 1997.

Consolidated Profit and Loss Account

Interest receivable and similar income

laterest payable and similar charges

Profit on ordinary activities

Profit on ordinary activities

Fully diluted earnings per share

Anthony Cheog

27th January 1997

Cost of sales

before taxation

after taxation

Earnings per share

Gross Profit

annual rent of £320,000.

21 per cent of Newman Tonks, factor in launching the bid. said it was considering its position. But analysts reckon FKI could easily afford to pay up to £2 a share to land Newman.

Ingersoll Rand is a befty company to get into a head-to-head with," said Sandy Morris at ABN Amro Houre Govett. "But once you have set your stall out to bid for a public company you should not be deterred. Strategic reasons could make di-lution more palatable for FKL" Ingersoll-Rand's vice presi-

dent Brian Jellison said the deal with Newman Tonks, its higgest in Britain, would shape the US group's European strategy and create an architectural hardware husiness with a full product range. He declined to group, that put a £195.7m price say how big architectural products were within the Ingersoll Rand group, which last year posted sales of \$6.7bn (£4.13hn).

Newman also forecast profits and buying a 3.8 per cent stake hefore tax, exceptional items in Newman at 179p. Newman's and hid costs of not less than directors have also pledged their 0.9 per cent holding to analysts' consensus forecasts. Mr Jellison said the forecast,

Property Trust (Pvt) Holdings Limited

Interim results for the 6 months ended 30th September 1996

The company has made substantial progress on all froms over the past six months and t am pleased to report a near doubling of post tax profits for the half year to 30th September 1996 to £519,000 from

We are now reaping the benefit of our acquisition programme of the past 18 months and this current year will reflect a full year's performance of the £10m, mainly retail, portfolio we purchased in Autumn

1995. Since the last year end we have further acquired a total of £6.15m of investment properties for a

The largest single purchase was of a 19,000 sq ft office huilding in Camberley, Surrey, let to Admiral PLC on a lease with 18 years unexpired. The investment, for which we paid £3.15m, produces current

In addition we acquired a small portfolio of three properties for £3m from Leicestershire County

We have further reduced the void element of our investment portfolio, currently standing at less than 5%, through a number of new tenancy agreements including the letting of approximately 8,000 sq ft of office accommodation in Central London to United Medical and Dental Schools of Guys and St

Thomas's Hospitals. This and other management initiatives have helped push our current annualised

In November we announced the sale of our property in Tooting. South Loodon, for £1.4m cash, which

was comfortably in excess of the book value. The sale was effected following a change of use and the granting of a reversionary lease to Regent Inns PLC.

I am also pleased to report that the infrastructure and foundation work is progressing on schedule on our joint venture development in Guangzhou, China of which we own one-third. The property market in Guangzhou recovered during 1996, as n result of a strong economy in Hong Kong, and we expect it

We believe we have demonstrated that our policy of acquiring income producing property with scope for improvement is the right way forward for your company and we intend to build on the foundations that have been laid. I also believe that as market conditions improve we should enjoy substantial growth both in iocome and capital value.

In view of the costs of circulation, the Directors have decided that the interim results will be published in the todependent on 28th January 1997.

000£

1.870

(192)

1,678

(243)

1,435

(930)

519

519

1.2p

I.lp

Notes: These results have been prepared in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 3 (FRS3). The unsudaed financial statements for the an months ended 30th September 1996 do not constitute statutory accounts. They have been drawn up using accounting policies and presentation consistent with those applied on the year coded 31st March 1996.
The shridged revenue account for the year ended 31st March 1996 comprises non-statutory accounts within the meaning of Section 240 of the Companies Act 1985 and is an extract from the latest published accounts of the group which have been delivered to the Registrar of Companies and contain an inconsidered authors, "more advisors," more advisors and contain an inconsidered authors," more applied to the second contained and contain an inconsidered authors, "more accounts of the group which have been delivered to the Registrar of Companies and contain an inconsidered authors," more accounts of the group when the second contains a second contained to the second co

£271.000 for the corresponding period last year.

"We thought we could ascertain the value of Newman Tonks' husiness without the profits

forecast," he said. Mr Jellison revealed that In-gersoll Rand had talked about husiness opportunities with Geoff Gahan, Newman's chief executive, in the past. "But the hostile bid accelerated our get-

ting together." he added. Ingersoll first contacted Newman Tonks shortly after FKI launched its pre-Christmas bid. Serious talks began earlier this

Ingersoll employs 2,600 staff in the UK while Newman has 4,000 employees. Cost-cutting was not a factor behind the hid. said Mr Jellison without giving any firm job guarantees. The takeover saga got off to

an unusual start when M&G, Newman Tonks' higgest shareholder with 11.2 per cent, irrevocably accepted FKI's hid on day one.

Our acceptance still stands," said a spokeswoman. "But if Ingersoil Rand's hid is successful and FKI's hid lapses we would

Year ended

1996 £000

12581

2.553

14681

2,085

(1.404)

728

729

2.1p 1.7p

£000

995

(246)

(5111

271

0.6p



Upping their stakes (from left): Heal's finance director Paul Clarke; the chief executive Colin Pilgrim; and John Davis, merchandising and logistics director

Heal's aims to float in March

Nigel Cope

Five managers who invested £500.000 in a management buyout of Heal's furnishings stores in 1990 will find their stake worth £7.5m when the group floats on the stock market in

Heal's chief executive, Colin Pilgrim, finance director, Paul Clarke, merchandise director. John Davis, and two other Heal's managers invested the money when the upmarket re-tailer was sold for £1m by Storehouse. The rest of the hacking came from venture capital group NatWest Ventures.

Heal's is now seeking a stock market flotation which will value the company at £15m. The listing is expected to raise £10m of fresh funds which will be used to repay the venture capitalists and open more shops.

on London's Tonenham Court Road, an outlet on the King's Road and another in Guildford. Mr Pilgrim, who joined the ompany as a graduate trainee in the 1970s, said: "The Kings Road store has been a roaring success and we would hope to continue the expansion out-

side our catchment area." He

suggested there may be scope for up to 10 branches in the UK. Heal's is one of Britain's most historic retail names. It was founded in 1810 by the Heal family as a feather dresser, which supplied bed manufacturers. By 1840 it had expanded into furnishings and had moved into the premises on Tottenham Court Road.

The group still hand-makes its heds and has numbered the Queen and John Wayne among its customers.

Last year the group record-There are just three hranches of Heal's - the flagship store ed trading profits of £1.4m on sales of £19.3m.

Tokyo's reforms blamed for slump

Richard Lloyd Parry

The Japanese government yesterday came under fire from one of the country's leading industrialists over the recent collapse in share prices on the Tokyo stock market.

Taizo Nishimuro, president of Toshiba Corporation, said the slump in share prices was due to disappointment at the slow pace of deregulation in Japan. and scepticism about the commitment of the Prime Minister. Ryutaro Hashimoto, to genuine reform. "They move too slow. Hashimoto is not acting on what he is talking about. That is the dilemma the government is facing. The stock market is an expression of disappointment,"

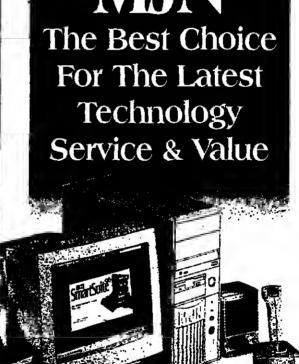
Shares on the Tokyo Stock Exchange fell yesterday for the sixth time in seven days, with the Nikkei 225 stock index sinking 354 points to 17,334.90, a drop of 2 per cent. The Topix Index was also down 2 per cent, having gone down nearly 10 per cent since the new year, and 17 per cent in the past six months.

Mr Nishimuro's remarks express a widespread fear among Japanese husinessmen that the so-called "Big Bang". a pro-gramme of detegulation among banks, insurers and brokerage houses announced by Mr Hashimoto in November, will not materialise quickly enough to boost Japan's flagging economy. Formidable vested interests

from politicians, as well as businessmen, closely tied to protected industries - stand in the way of Mr Hashimoto's reforms, and many observers in Tokyo are sceptical that they can be meaningfully implemented by the summer. There is also unease about the draft budget for 1997, which includes tax rises, but no spending cuts.

At the same time, the fear of hasty reform is also causing alarm, because of the uncertain state of Japan's banks, which are still saddled with dehts resulting from the collapse of land prices in the early 1990s.

Hamish McRae, page 20



- Irrael 166MHz Pentium processor with MMX** Technology (P166MX model) or 6x86 P166+ processor manufactured by
- IBM (PJ66+ and PJ66+ TX models)

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Thorn blow to shareholders over dividend

Tom Stevenson City Editor

Shareholder confidence in Thorn was dealt another blow yesterday after the Radio Rentals group that was recently demerged from the more glamorous EMI music publisher withdrew the option for its shareholders to take next month's interim dividend in the

form of shares rather than cash. Thorn's shares, which crashed 42.5p to 209p after a profits warning last week, have drifted since to yesterday's close of 201p. With the price on the slide, shareholders have little incentive to take their dividend payout in the form of shares, as the number they would receive was determined on the basis of a much higher price.

The Thorn scrip alternative to the interim payout for the six months to September was calculated on the basis of a share price of 276.6p, well above the prevailing price. A scrip is only attractive when a rising share price effectively increases the value of the payout.

The withdrawal of the scrip

is the latest blow for shareholders in Thorn, who have watched the value of their investment in the consumer goods rentals group slide ever since the demerger of Thorn EMI last summer. Contrary to expectations that the split would enhance shareholder value, shares m both EMI and Thorn, under the chairman Sir Colin Southgate, have fallen.

Since last August. Thoro's value has slumped from £1.77bn to under £900m. EMI's shares have also tumbled from 1,450p to only 1,261p at last night's close. The fall has caused dismay among investors who had expected the split to unlock hidden value in the way that simi-



Sir Colin Southgate: Thorn's value has fallen from

separated from its textiles

In the run-up to the demerger the value of Thorn EMI was bid up on the stock market as investors gambled on a bid for EMI from a cash-rich American entertainment group which has failed to materialise.

Thorn said last week that it would not make more in the year to March than the £170.7m it lar demergers did at companies achieved a year earlier. The such as ICL, which spun off company hlamed weak pre-

Zeneca, and Courtaulds, which Christmas trading, the full effect of which would not be felt until the final quarter of the year, and the impact of sterling's recent strength on its overseas earnings

Thorn geoerates about 60 per cent of its turnover in the US so it is vulnerable to fluctuations in the dollar/pound exchange rate. It has also been hit in the US by intense competition from electrical retailers who have turned consumer electronics such as televisions and videos into commodity products.

Fyffes bruised by cautious handling

fairly treated by the stock market. They think its reputation and valuation has suffered because of the problems at Geest, whose hanana business Fyffes a particularly appetising investment. On Panmure Gordoo's profit estimate of for this year the shares trade on

been damaged by a series of natural disasters such as hurricanes and disease a prospective growth rate in single figwhich seemed to wreck the group's ures that is high enough.

crops oo an almost annual basis. By contrast, Fyffes claims its fruit and vegetable husiness has been well managed, with balance coming from its wide product range which includes apples, citrus fruit and potatoes as well as bananas. The group has also been careful to develop a wide source of supply. huying in crops not just from the rope too. Bananas now account for only 30 per cent of sales.

other former go-go fruit distribution rising another 8.5p to 169.5p yesterday, companies of the 1980s such as Albert Fisher Fyffes has found itself derated. Yesterday's interim figures, showing As a result, the shares have heen a

three years, although they managed a 5p rise yesterday to 115p an aggressive acquisitions strategy to using one of its original husinesses in-drive sales higher. From £623m in 1993, volved in the distribution of power

But that growth has not been reflected at the profits line. Yesterday's full-year figures showed that in the year to October pre-tax profits were up from £42m to £46.5m hut profits from continuing operations fell. There was a IR£1m loss in the US again and that business has now been terminated. The group margin edged up from 3.2 per cent to 3.3 per cent.

Fyffes may be able to run the Geest business better than Geest itself. But by deciding to run it as a standalone operation to satisfy supermarket concerns of market dominance it has substituted customer satisfaction for the scope to wring out synergy gains from the deal. Fyfics and Geest still operate their own sales forces and have their own head offices.

Elsewhere, there has been investment in expanding the Duhlin distri-hution centre and the construction of a new centre at Basingstoke. After capital investment of IR£22m last year, the figure should fall to IR£15 this year.

Looking forward, Fyffes is keen to use its £70m cash pile to fund further acquisitions, possibly in northern Europe where it is under-represented. But though this is a solid husiness with a strong halance sheet, it does not look

According to Fyffes's management, the Dublin-hased fruit group has been un-

EDITED BY TOM STEVENSON

Wyko takes off under new team

Wyko has handsomely repaid the faith of investors who backed Richard John-Caribbean hut South America and Eu-son, now chief executive, and two former colleagues from IMI who boarded the one-time metal basher three years Even so, the market has chosen to ago. Since hitting a low at around 32p treat the stock with caution. Along with in April 1993, the shares have rocketed,

Yesterday's interim figures, showing pre-tax profits soaring 79 per cent to dull performer, moving in a very nar-row range around 100p for the past give some clue to the spectacular recent performance. The new team has p rise yesterday to 115p. successfully turned the group round and During this period Fyffes has used is now setting its mind to rehuilding it. group turnover has risen to £1.4bn last transmission components as a hase.

Trading record

Turnover (Ir £bn)

Earnings per share (pence)

Dividends per share (pence)

Shareholders funds (# 2)

What has been achieved is evident from the progress of this industrial distribution division, whose focus has been widened from the £350m power transmission market to the much bigger industrial maintenance market, put at £2bn by the company. Margins have multiplied from 2.1 per ceot in 1993/94 to just over 9 per cent in the latest figures and Johnson and his team reckon there is plenty more to go for.

They point to the 14 per cent enjoyed by market leader Brammer and suggest that several further small add-on acquisitions could buy the extra £30m sales needed to hring margins to the levels of their rival. The latest figures were propelled by three small pur-chases for a total of £7.5m, which are thought to have added £600,000 to divisional profits up from £2.29m to

£4.01m in the six months. But the group moved up a gear last August when it took on Dowding & Mills in the plant repair and service market with the rights-funded £15.2m acquisition of British Electrical Repairs and Lewis Group. At number two position behind Dowding, with around half its 25 per cent share, these two businesses will form the core of a new elec-

Share price pence

After a £500,000 restructuring provision, they lost £190,000 in the latest figures, but even getting partway towards Dowding's peak margins of over 17 per cent would transform the

FTSE FTSE SEAQ

Even so, full-year profits of £7.5m would put the shares on a chunky prospective multiple of 20 and, with the market background said to be difficult, they may mark time. Hold.

Strong pound hits Haynes

Haynes has 95 per ceot of the UK market for car repair manuals and 60 per cent of the US market, which has seven times more vehicles on the road. Dominating on both sides of the Atlantic puts the Somerset-based company in a happy position, but it also makes it vulnerable to exchange rate fluctuations. That and its dependence

fluctuations. That and its dependence on the price of paper can make short-term earnings rather volatile.

To mitigate the first of those problems. Haynes is growing its French and Swedish language sales, while back at home it is producing cycle and caravan repair guides and planning expansion into DIY manuals for the home. But it is still highly cyclical. home. But it is still highly cyclical.

The US husiness is a nice little earoer, generating a healthy return of 30 per cent of turnover. It accounts for 80 per cent of group turnover and 60 per cent of profits. But the unexpected strength of sterling against the dollar, and to a lesser extent against the French franc, cost Haynes £170,000 in the six months to the end of November.

The interim figures yesterday. showed a rise of 9 per cent before allowing for currency effects, and just a 2 per cent gain to £2.24m afterwards. But raw material costs, which held back profit growth in the previous two years, do now seem to have peaked on both sides of the Atlantic, and in the US Haynes is hoping to piggyback on the rapid expansion of autopart chains such as Autozone, which is increasing its outlets at a rate of 300, or 20 per

The City has already factored in a fall in earnings in the second half, to give a small decline in full-year profits from £6.01m to £5.91m and a 6 per cent earnings slide to 23.4p. On that basis the shares, down 10p at 235p yesterday, look unexciting even on a modest 10 times prospective price-earnings ratio. Cootinued strength for the poundmight cast doubt on the forecast 11p dividend, despite a 0.5p rise to 5p at the interim stage. Expensive.

Xenova's US deal heads new Chris Godsmark Business Correspondent biotech boom

Magnus Grimond

Xenova, a biotechnology group which joined the stock market at 215p a share last month, saw the price jump another 25p to 295p yesterday after unveiling a tieup with Bristol-Myers Squibb, the US pharmaceuticals giant. The deal came as two other hiotech hopefuls. Camhridge Antibody Technology and the Bioscience Innovation Centre. confirmed their intention to float on the main market.

With another. BioFocus. waiting in the wings to launch on Ofex, the growing queue of fledgling companies ready to come to market suggests the sector has overcome last year's problems, when several companies either pulled or delayed their floats. Xenova said the deal with

Bristol-Myers involved screening its "library" of more than 25,000 microbes and 6,000 plans extracts against disease pro-cesses thrown up by the US group's genetic research. The aim will be to isolate a molecule or molecules which can inhibit the target process, thereby checking the disease.

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Xenova will also supply its expertise in so-called "infomatics". which involves using a database to identify the chemical which results from the screening process or determine whether it is a new one in order to aid its reproduction in the laboratory.

As well as providing the drug target technology, Bristol-

Myers will undertake the development and marketing of any product which emerges from the collaboration. Xenova will do the screening, identify any chemicals which result and sup-ply the chemical to Bristol-Myers, which will cover research costs and make undisclosed milestone and royalty payments.

Xenova's technology is based on the discovery of drugs derived from naturally occurring micro-organisms, such as those found in fungi and bacteria. and from plants and plant extracts. lts most advanced drug candidate under development is an anti-cancer treatment which is still three years away from the market. But Louis Nishet, chief executive, pointed out that Taxol, one of Bristol-Myers main anti-cancer drugs, was originally derived from a plant.

Separately, Cambridge Anti-body Technology (CAT) said it planned to seek a full listing in March at a price which analysts expect will value the company at between £85m and £95m. It is thought to be looking to raise £30m in an institutional placing. having pulled in £16.6m from investors since the company was founded in 1990.

The Bioscience Innovation Centre, which is raising £6m in its placing and offer, is also based in Cambridge. It aims to offer start-up biotech groups the infrastructure to run their husiness, including providing laboratories and managemen

Rolls wins £294m Emirates deal

Rolls-Royce's aerospace division was given a significant boost yesterday with the announcement of a \$500m (£294m) order for its Trent range of jet engines to power a fleet of Airbus A330-200 airliners for Emirates, the international airline of the United Arah Emirates.

The order comes on top of Emirates' existing deal with Rolls to supply 28 Trent 800 engines for 14 Boeing 777s. It means that by 1999, when the first A330s go into service, Emirates will operate with only Rolls-Royce engines, a highly

Magnus Grimond

Glaxo Wellcome, the drugs group which dominates the

anti-AIDS market, yesterday

unveiled an initiative which will

attempt to overcome the prob-

lems of resistance to existing

treatments. The group is

launching a collaboration with

Affvmetrix, now an associate

company as a result of Glaxo's

takeover of the Affymax US

drug discovery group in 1995, to

determine whether advances

in genetic research can be used

to hetter understand the

The efficacy of current treat-

ments using "cocktails" which

include Glaxo's Retrovir and

Epivir drugs was confirmed at

a conference in Washington

over the weekend, but the ten-

progress of HIV and AIDS.

Glaxo unveils new

anti-AIDs initiative

unusual development in an 16 long-range Airhus A330- Analysts said the latest order industry which traditionally prefers to play one jet manu-rent A300-600s and A310s, with footing with its two US rivals in facturer off against another.

The deal, won in competition with General Electric and Pratt & Whitney of the United States, brings Rolls-Royce's total order over the past year to more than £7bn. It also raises the order book for the Trent to 223 aircraft and a total of 446 eogines and is likely to secure jobs for workers at the group's main Derby assembly operations, which employ 13,000 people and have been heavily hit by restructuring of the aerospace industry over the past five years. Emirates ordered the fleet of

dency for the virus to mutate has

hampered their effects. The

new programme will involve

Glaxo acquiring so-called

GeneChips from Affymetrix.

which enable genetic informa-

tion on HIV to be correlated

with the effects of drugs and the

patient's health. If an initial

database proves successful, it

will be expanded to collect in-

formation on "tens of thou-sands" of HIV-infected patients.

and development director, said:

"By hringing the scientific ad-

vances made in the field of ge-netics to bear on the most difficult

questions in the clinic, we hope

to be able to improve the current

utilisation of anti-HIV therapies

in a way that will benefit patients

through tailor-made treatment

James Niedel, Glaxo's research

an option to buy a further seven aircraft later. Each of the A330s, which will seat up to 272 passengers, will he powered by two Trent 700 engines, with work due to start in Derby in early 1998. Deliveries will then continue at the rate of four

planes a year until 2002. Sheikh Ahmed hin Saeed al-Maktoum. chairman of Emirates, said: 'We chose Rolls-Royce Trent engines because our study shows them to be the most effective and efficient engine for the A330-200 for our present and future network."

the race to supply the Airbus A330 and Boeing 777. Though Rolls has found it harder to secure orders with US carriers, i has done increasingly well with Far Eastern airlines. Profits for 1996 are forecast at around £235m, rising to £300m in 1997. "This is a hig order in the civil

field by any standards. It's unusual for a carrier to end up with engines supplied by one company, and even more unusual for that company to be Rolls-Royce," one analyst said. Rolls-Royce shares were un-

changed at 244p.

New York state sues tobacco companies

David Usborne New York

Shares in BAT fell 11.5p to 484p after New York yesterday joined the rush by individual American states to launch high-profile lawsuits against the tohacco industry for allegedly covering up the addictive and medically hazardous nature of cigarettes.

After hesitating on the issue for months, New York Attorney General Dennis Vacco filed suit in the Manhattan State Supreme Court against six tohacco firms, including Brown & Williamson, which is owned by BAT Industries, Philip Morris, RJR Nabisco Holdings and the Liggett Group.

New York is the 20th US state, but also one of the biggest, to climb on board the lawsuits

handwagon. Each lawsuit accuses the tobacco companies of lying about the health risks of smoking and seeks to recoup public money spent on treating

Mr Vacco was reported to have made an attempt to negotiate an out-of-court settlement with the companies. While a figure of \$395m was apparently floated, no agreement was reached.

tobacco-related diseases.

A similar, though much more advanced, case involving Florida meanwhile took an unexpected turn after Philip Morris submitted records purportedly showing that in the 1970s the state manufactured its own. high-nicotine and filterless eigarettes within its prison system and distributed them free to in Housing sales in the US fell by 3.5 per ceot in December, a bigger-than-expected drop. This was due partly to severe weather, according to the National Association of Realtors. Analysts said the figure would not influence the Federal Reserve's thinking about interest rates. Far more important will be the index of labour costs in the final quarter of 1996, due to he published today. Fed chairman Alan Greenspan flagged a warning about rising pay in testimony to Congress a week ago.

• Williams Holdings has acquired the Fyrnetics group of companies for \$22.8m (£14m) from Management Investment and Technology, a group quoted on the Hong Kong stock exchange. In addition to the consideratioo. Williams said it has assumed bank deht of \$2m. On a proforma basis for the year ended December, Fyrnetics, which markets and distributes smoke and carbon monoxide detectors in North America under the Lifesaver and Fire Sentry hrands, had sales of \$28.1m, producing operating profits of \$3.1m. Net assets after borrowings were \$7.8m.

 Robert H Lowe is expanding both its replica kit and packaging divisions with three acquisitions totalling £13.8m. The largest is Westfield Medical, the UK's largest privately owned producer of sterilised packaging. The deals will be funded by a placing and open offer to raise £7m before expenses.

 Volvo's chief executive officer Soeren Gyll will resign from his position at the company's annual general meeting on 23 April and will he succeeded by Leif Johannsson, presently Electrolux's chief executive officer. Mr Gyll said the policy of reorientating Volvo to focus solely on transport equipment has been largely completed. He added that at the age of 58 he thought it the right time to "pass on the baton". Electrolux has appointed Atlas Cop-co's Michael Treschow to replace Mr Johansson at Electrolux. In turn, Atlas Copco has named Giulio Mazzalupi to replace Mr Treschow, Mr Mazzalupi has been with Atlas Copco since 1971.

 Shares in Norbain, the designer, maker and distributor of closed circuit TV and other security devices, plunged 106.5p to 332.5p after the company said that Dedicated Micros, one of its leading suppliers, had terminated an agre

		an agreement	to supply	edmbment
	Compa	ny Resul	ts	
	Turnover £	Pre-tax £	EPS ·	Dividend ·
avaghan & Gray (I)	66.3m (25.5m)	1.02m (-1.13m)	1p (-6.5p)	1p (-)
Bronic Comtek (I)	17.1m (15.2m)	0.02m (2.01m)	nii (3.25p)	0.250 (0.750)
ffles (F)	11.42bn (11.89b)	n) k39.3m (tr46.6m)	8.09p (7.91p)	1.83p (-)
pedou Scottiste Bk (F)	· (-)	9.4m (B ()4m)	5.7p (4.8p)	2.95p (2.5p)
isne People (F)	3.56m (2.02m)	0.13m (-0.68m)	0.35p (-1.35p)	
reporty Trust (1)	1.87m (1.34m)	0.52m (0.27m)		nl (-)
yko Group (I)	54.5m (41.8m)	3.63m (2.03m)	4.44p (2.62p)	1.4p (10p)
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Food retailers lose weight over fears of a price war The threat of a superstores price war had the predictable

cut-price impact on shares of food retailers as the stock market decided they should give up more of their recent There is considerable debate ahout whether an old-fashioned, no-holds-barred con-

frontation will actually emerge. Most observers think such a development unlikely. But J Sainsbury could be the catalyst for the feared wave of price cuts. Its dismal trading performance has to be arrested and although it is not a natural price cutter its desperation to recapture its top position could provoke it into adopting

a much meaner pricing policy. Such thoughts left food retailers in need of sustenance. Sainsbury fell 9p to 332p in busy trading; the shares were at ooe time down 11.5p. Safeway lost 13.5p to 376p and

Budgens retreated 1p to 43.75p and WM Morrison slipped 1.5p to 151.5p. Asda, the day's husiest traded share, drupped 1.25p to 120.25p and Kwik Save suffered a 6.5p de-

cline to 300p.

The rest of the market appeared to recover from its panicky retreat on Friday and Footsie ended an insignificant 6.8 points lower at 4,212. The supporting FTSE 250 index lost

4.9 to 4.593.1. Drugs remained one of the healthier sectors. What could he regarded as unrealistic takeover rumours continued to circulate with SmithKline Beecham again leading the charge with ao 11.5p gain to

Roche, the Swiss group, is never far from the takeover rumour mill and remains a candidate to link with SmithKlioe, albeit through an agreed deal rather than a hostile bid.



MARKET REPORT DEREK PAIN

stock market reporter of the year

has also been drawn into the Cable & Wireless, an inspeculation. Zeneca remains in vestment presentations due, edged forward 2.5p to 480p. and Vesper Theravereft rose 7.5p to 936p on hopes of a

the frame, edging forward 8.5p to 1,693.5 p. Glaxn Wellcome added 8.5p to 957.5p on Aids drugs de-£700m United Arabs Emirates velopment hopes and Xenova, forging a research link with US giant Bristol-Myers Squibh. Newman Tonks jumped 29p to 280-5p as logersoll-Rand, the US group, produced a near 180p cash offer, topping jumped 25p to 295p. The shares have had an eveotful ride since arriving last month at 215p and falling to 193.5p the shot from the FKI engiocering group. Norbian, a closed circuit

before rallying.

Rentoldi Initial was the bestperforming blue chip, im-proving 10p to 452.5p, a peak. Others in form included Imperial Chemical Iodustries, Orange and, once again, Han-

Lewis vehicle has jumped 134p since it was disclosed it had an option on his 25.1 per cent £40m stake in Glasgow Rangers.

Lanica Trust was another in demand. The high fiver, which touched 2,050p last month, rallied 162-5p to 1,737-5p as rumours cootinued to huzz that Andrew Regan, the young en-trepreseur in command, has a number of intriguing deals up his corporate sleeve.

Prism Leisure, the comput er games group, rose 15.5p to 140.5p. Half-year figures, followed by the first meeting with analysts for some time, are expected later this week. Profits last year were £2.1m with £684,000 coming at the interim stage.

televisioo group, provided the day's profits shock, crashing 106.5p to 332.5p. John Lewis of Hungerford, no relation to the stores and su-English National Investpermarket partnership, made ment Co contioued its rea firm debut. The furniture markable progress, gaining 26.5p to 257.5p. The Joseph company ended at 3.75p against a 3p placing.

Chelsea Village, the football club, gained 4.5p to 123p. It fol-lowed up its on field exploits by placing a further batch of shares. Through its stockhroker Ellis & Partners I millioo were sold at 120p. As in the past the Ellis fee was met by the issue of shares - this time

25,000. The club has also agreed to issue 126, 532 shares to captain Dennis Wise at 118.5p and another 500,000 are earmarked for Graham Bell, who has helped develop the club's

youth team. He is taking up 250,000 at 106.5p. Takeover hopes returned to lift SR Gent, the clothing supplier to Marks & Spencer, 6p

to 56.5p.
Two hidders are said to be in the wings - one of them an Indooesian company. Another where takeover hopes hover, United Energy, rose 2.5p to 24p. There is talk

Share Price Data

The Independent Index

FTSE 100 - Real-time 00 Sterfing Rates 04
UK Stock Market Report 01 Bullion Report 05
UK Company News 02 Wall St Report 20
Foreign Exchange 03 Tokyo Market 21

Market leaders: Top 20 volumes

FTSE 100 Index hour by hour

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Prices are in sterling except where stated. The yield is last year's dividend, grossed up by ,20 per cent, as a percentage of the share price. The price/earnings (P/E) ratio is the share

The index allows you to access real-time share prices by phone from London Stock Exchange. Simply dial 0891 123 335, and when prompted 62 do, so enter the 4-digit code printed next to each share. To access the latest financial reports dial 0891 1233 followed by one of the Iwo-digit codes below.

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Source: FT In

Taking Stock

☐ Rowlinson Securities, a low-profile but successful building and property group is rumoured to be in a predator's sights. The shares, a narrow market, rose 30p to 227.5p, a peak. They were 123p in the spring. Based at Stockport the company is run hy the Rowlinson family, any takeover would need the family's say-so.

Aminex, with oil interests in the former Soviet Union, was little changed at 65p. Deutsche Morgan Grenfell has placed, through Henderson Crosthwaite, its 6 per cent shareholding. .

Intriguing goings-on at National Home Loans Holdings. The shares rose 2p to a closing peak of 145.5p. But in late trading a flurry of delayed deals went through at 148p. Volume was strong; 2.4 million shares.

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GOOD HEALTH IS GOOD BUSINESS

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Other Financial

Japanese turn envious eyes on the UK's Big Bang reforms

It is not every day that a top Japanese hanking system industrialist blames govern—There is a lot of stress about the ment indecision for the collapse of the stock market, so the nancial accounts. Indeed the comments by Taizo Nishimuro, market can carry out its "optipresident of Toshiba, (see page 17) deserve to be taken seriously in Japan itself. But they deserve to be taken seriously elsewhere rate accounts means revealing in the world too, for they make the true weakness of the balthe universal point that one of the key aims of structural reform, maybe the key aim, is to clear the way for faster economic growth.

It is interesting to note, too, that structural reform in the case of Japan (and for that matter Germany) is basically a shift in the tax and financial systems towards the Anglo-American models. Note that in Germany this week, the big issue is the government's plan for a cut in income tax to be financed (almost certainly) by a rise in VAT, hringing both the top rate of income tax and VAT rates virtually to UK levels.

In Germany the tax plan has run into opposition, but it is in Japan - witness Mr Nishimuro's outburst - that the tardy approach to reform is having its most serious economic impact. The Japanese government's reform platform bad many planks, hut the one of most immediate importance to the stock market was its plans for a Big Bang.
The provisional translation

of the government paper out-lining the plan is striking for its references to New York and London. For example, it starts "Goal - An international market comparable to the NY and London markets by the year 2001", and argues that the Japanese financial market "needs to play its true role of optimal resource distribution, as the markets in NY and London do..." to use Japanese

The plans for reform, which on paper seem very similar to those which London brought into practice with Big Bang in October 1986, has also to take into account the pile of bad There is a lot of stress about the need for transparency in fimal resource distribution" if it has correct accounts on which to work. But publishing accuance sheets of the Japanese hanks, which have been made much worse by the collapse of share prices.

So there is a catch-22. Reform is stymied because it requires disclosure of hitherto concealed losses, which are in part the result of weak securities prices (they are also the result of weak land prices). But reform is necessary to restore confidence in the market, and until that happens prices are unlikely to nudge back up, and so help restore the bank balance sbeets.

There is a further twist to this. Until bank balance sheets are restored the banks are unwilling to lend to new customers, particularly small and expanding businesses. But these husinesses are the only ones which are likely to pull the economy out of stagnation,

Japan - employment growth collapses



Hamish McRae

We think of Japanese

industry as very efficient and in terms of labour productivity it is. But in its use of capital, Japanese industry is very inefficient

But until the economy is on a clear growth path the pile of bad debts cannot be cleared. So it is not just the financial economy which is gummed up by the failure to reform; the real economy is too.

You can see one effect of economic stagnation in the labour market. As the graph on the left shows, job creation in Japan was very low last year. In the first nine months of the year employment rose by 0.8 per cent, but 75 per cent of all new employment came from employees. While this may represent a shift to a more flexible labour market, in the short term it means that consumers do not have much incentive to boost their spending. So consumption will not

stimulate recovery. Exports will help hut the export sector in Japan is quite small relative to the whole economy. (UK exports of goods and services per head of population are more than double those of Japan.) So the export sector is simply not big enough to pull the economy out of recession.

So what will pull up the economy? Here we come back to structural reform. If the

Japan vs US

Corporate capital efficiency:

market can signal more clearly where savings should receive the greatest return, this will propel the economy to more efficient use of capital. We think of Japanese industry as very efficient and in terms of labour productivity its factories are. But in its use of capital, Japanese industry is very inefficient. The London-based investment boutique, Smithers & Co. recently published a bearish assessment of the Japanese stock market. One of the reasons for its bearishness was this. As you can see on the chart, Japanese firms are almost as productive as those in the US when it comes to using plant and buildings. But they are very unpro-ductive in their use of land and

their levels of inventories. The reason for this is partly the high cost of land, but it is also a function of the land speculation by Japanese busi-ness, itself a function of over-cheap capital. Inventories are also much higher than in the US, again prohably a function of overly-cheap finance. So you see, the cheap finance provided by the banks to industry, much touted by people critical of the Anglo-American stock market-driven financial sys-tem, has had the effect of encouraging inefficient use of that finance. Surprise, surprise: if you subsidise something - in this case industrial capital - it

will be used inefficiently. So what is to be done? Some economists in Japan have been arguing that the only way forward is to press on with structural reform, in particular a shift away from manufacturing to service industry, even if in the short term that led to further joh losses. Now the head of one of Japan's largest manufacturing companies is arguing for structural reforms too. This is hig news for the rest of the world. Anyone accustomed looking enviously at the Japanese economic system should be aware how enviously the Japanese leadership is looking at the reforms that have taken place in the UK.

Treasury's forecasts are more of a flashback

There's nothing quite like red faces in Whitehall to cheer you up. You will no doubt recall that Ken Clarke and his merry Treasury men established a target of 2.5 per cent for inflation by the end of 1997. In his November Budget our Ken said he would meet that target. Ken also forecast GDP would grow by 3.5 per cent. Not according to

his own department, however. HM Treasury's Forecasts for the UK Economy, a Comparison of Independent Forecasts published this month tells a different story. On the third page is a summary of inflation forecasts for 1997, and under the column for RPI excluding mortgage interest payments (Q4) comes the puzzling entry: "HM Treasury - 3.0 per

Three per cent? Has the Chancellor been misleading the House of Commons and the nation at large? And the figure for GDP growth in 1997 is 2.5 per cent, not 3.5 per cent. Is Ken expecting a collapse in growth as well as spiralling inflation?

No such luck. It's just an old-fashioned cock-up by the people who compiled the report. All the independent forecasts for 1997 have been correctly updated, but all the Treasury's figures have been carried over from 1996.

A Treasury spokesman says: "The Treasury holds its hands up. It's Groundhog Day. It's a spreadsheet thing - the figures for 1996 have been repeated for 1997. We'll change it for next month's re-

Her Majesty's Treasury where time literally stands

Here's something slightly less cheerful. The Rev Dr Leslie Griffiths will give a speech in London this Thursday with the blood-curdling title "Within the City of London are the seeds of its own destruction".

The host is the Securities Institute at the City of London Club. Do they know something we don't?

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PEOPLE & BUSINESS



Standing still: Ken Clarke's figures were not updated

John McLaren, director of Deutsche Morgan Grenfell and a venture capital special-ist, bas found time between deals to write a novel.

The blurb on the back of my review copy of Press Send says it's a "brilliantly inventive story of two smart but disillusioned Generation Xers and their hilarious revenge on the ruthless corporate values of the 90s". Dangerous echoes of the Nicola Horlick fiasco?

The blurb adds that Mr McLaren's career has included four years at the British Emhassy in Japan and a number of years in a San Francisco venture capital firm. Last October he launched Masterprize, an international competition for symphonic

composition. So, a Renaissance man, then. The hlurh rather spoils this, however, by concluding that be "drives too fast and eals out too often". On the other hand, as long as he doesn't dine out too often with headhunters or ABN Amro, that should be OK.

How very kind. Christopher Rodrigues, chief executive of the Bradford & Bingley Building Society, has sent me some batter mix for Yorkshire puddings.

The "extra light and tasty" batter also makes pancakes,

which explains the odd missive. It's an invitation to Bradford & Bingley's press party on 1! February, or Pancake Tuesday.

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Mr Rodrigues was brought in from Thomas Cook last June to spearhead the society's fight against the trend of mutualisation.

As for the pancake mix, I asked a society spokesman what I could do with it. "Do what you like with it," be said. You can batter someone over the head with it if you like." Very mutual.

Fancy competing in a quiz with Dickie Davies and the Lord Mayor of London, Alderman Roger Cork? St John Ambulance is looking for husinesses to take part in the charity's annual quiz, the Brain Game, on 20 February.

A reservation for a team of 10 costs £2,000, but the fee includes champagne, supper and wine. The winners of the 1996 trophy, the modestly titled "Knowledgeable People, Mostly Geniuses, Also Known as KPMG", will be present to be knocked off their perch.

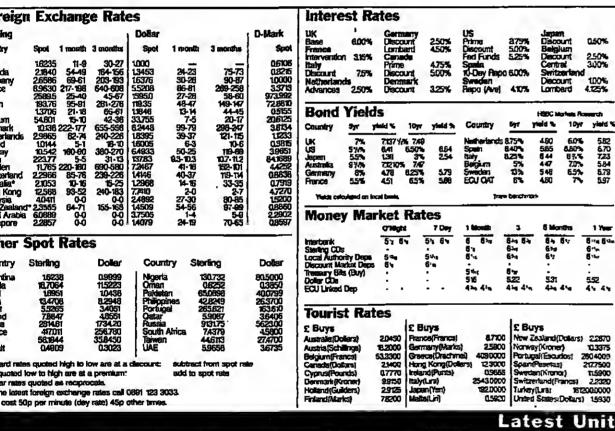
The aim is to raise £50,000 for St John Amhulance. Anyone interested should ring Melissa Bullock at St John. Ambulance on 0171-235 5231.

John Willcock

debts accumulated by the Foreign Exchange Rates 11-9 54-49 69-61 217-198 25-40 95-81 21-18 75-10 298-24 121-15 10-68 107-112 152-101 119-114 33-35 2-7 30-85 5-69 70-65 39-37 50-25 93-103 41-16 40-37 14-16 27-30 54-56 24-19 11233 03815 39651 841689 44252 08638 07919 47270 15200 08660 22902 08597 29865 10144 10.542 223.77 11.765 2.2966 2.1053 12.568 40411 *2.3555 6.0888 2.2857 **Other Spot Rates** 80.5000 0.3857 400795 26.3700 163.670 3.6406 562300 4.5800 27.4700 3.6735 ted low to high are at a premium

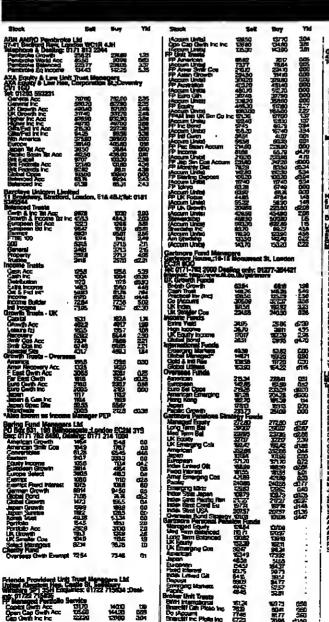
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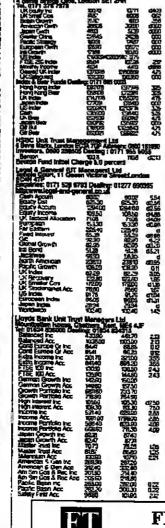
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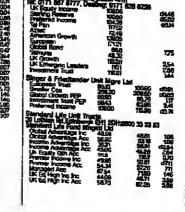




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from the motherland Racing **GREG WOOD**

There are some siewards and clerks of the course who will feel that one Pitman with a trainer's licence is as many as they wish to deal with, but the total will soon double following the announcement yesterday that Mark Pitman, who has been assistant to his mother, Jenny, for the last four years, is to strike out on his own. The former jockey, who rode Garrison Savannah to victory for the stable in the 1991 Gold Cup, will hegin his new career as soon as he

has found a suitable base. This (clearly amicable) parting of the generations came as a surprise to many, who had assumed that Mark Pitman would inherit the licence at Weathereock House on Jenny's retirement. Yet as the present incumbent pointed out, "nobody should ever make any assumptions about anything in this life", which is a useful rule for anyone in the husiness of hors-

As her son confirmed, "my mother certainly has no intention of retiring yet, and after a meeting at the weekend it was

decided that it was best for me-

Pitman to strike out

to go out on my own." Mark Pitman's departure will end a long professional association with the Lambourn yard, one of the most consistently suc-cessful in the country. "We wish him all the best," his mother said. "Naturally, like any mother, I hope he is a success, and his time here will stand him in good stead for the future.

RICHARD EDMONDSON NAP: Trump (Musselburgh 3.50) NB: Baabeth (Lingfield 3.00)

"Last year much to my delight, my sister Mandy Bowlby took out a licence to train, and I'm very proud that Mark has now done the same. If either or both beat me in the Gold Cup or Grand National, I will be the first to give them a hig hug. I don't know at the moment when I will retire. I'm getting married later this year and a lot of things are changing in my

Rather like one of her own steeplechasers, which returns year after year for a fresh campaign, Jenny Pitman has been

racing for so long that it seems a little strange to find that she is just 50 years of age. It therefore seems likely that the possibility of early retirement existed only in in the daydreams

felt the rough edge of her famously prickly temper. Mark Pitman, meanwhile, at the age of 3D, could hardly have a better foundation for his solo career, since his time at Weathercock Hourse, in addition to periods with Martin Pipe and David Nicholson, allows him to draw on experience with the three most successful trainers of the last decade. The

Another assumption which appeared wide of the mark yesterday was that Dorans Pride, probably the best staying chascr in Ireland, will represent une of the hest chances of Irish success at the Cheltenham Festival. Though Michael Hourigan's chaser is as short as 9-1 fur the Gold Cup, the trainer appears extremely reluctant to subject Dorans Pride to such

strength of the Pitman dynasty,

you feel, will be doubled, not

halved, by his departure.

chase at Leopardstown on Sun-

We'll have to wait and see how we get on there," Hourig-an said yesterday, "but I don't think he's mature enough and it will depend on ourselves more of racecourse officials who have than the horse. It's a hig decision and I don't want to mess him up. You wouldn't put in a novice against Steffi Graf at ten-nis, and it's the same story."

Indeed, Hourigan is inclined to bypass the Festival altogether, even though Dorans Pride might well start favourite if he lined up for the Sun Alliance Chase. "I would imagine he'll stay novice chasing in Ireland," the trainer said. "There's plenty of good prize-money to be picked up between Fairyhouse and Punchestown. He nearly died last year with two bouts of colic, so we're lucky enough just to have him without pushing him too. There'll be next year, please God."

Since Dorans Pride is a former winner of the Stayers' Hurdle, Hourigan can at least be sure that his horse would both act around Cheltenham and get the Gold Cup trip. No such luck for Gordon Richards, stiff opposition, no matter how trainer of One Man, who is still well he performs in a novice puzzling over the grey's run at and the choice between the



Flights of fancy: The favourite, Minster's Madam, in the air In yesterday's seller at Plumpton

Cheltenham three days ago. That outing, you may recall, was supposed to decide once and for all what One Man will be doing in Festival week, but horses rarely provide a straight answer to a straight question

Gold Cup and Champion Chase remains a difficult one. There will be a lot more talking and thinking before

Cheltenham," Richards said, and there will be another race, too. "He will go to the Comet Chase at Ascot [on Wednesday jockey, 35, is also facing a crimappearance on 27 February.

week]. He might as well go for inal-damage charge following an a £60,000 race as have a gallop

at home." Walter Swinburn is to appear before magistrates next month after being charged with assault. The three-times Derby-winning

incident at a restaurant in Newmarket on Friday. Swinburn, who earlier this month completed a 200-mile charity walk through Ireland, has been released on bail pending his court

WARWICK

HYPERION

1.10 CARLITO BRIGANTE (nap) 2.10 Dream Ride

3.10 Flimsy Truth 3.40 Cover Point

2.40 Harbour Island

GOING: Good to Firm

Left-hand course, Run-in of 2411 yards.

Racecourse is west of city on B-1095. Buses from rail stations at Warwick (1m) and Learnington Spa (2m). ADMISSION: Clob 512 [Juniors 16-26-58]; Tattersalls 58 (Students 54); Course 55, CAR PARR: Club 53; remainder free. SIS PACIFIES CHANNEL

ELEADING TRAINERS WITH RUNNERS: M Pipe — 29 winners from 117 maners, sixes a success ratio of 24.8% and a loss to a 51 level stake of \$27.87; ft Nicholson — 21 winners, 98 runners, 21.4%, ±51.82; Mrs J Pitman — 11 winners, 70 runners, 20.4%, ±531.93; N Henderson — 10 winners, 45 runners, 22.2%, ±53.74.

ELEADING JOCKEYS: 2 Danwoody — 31 winners, 73 ricks, 46.6%, ±540.82; A Magnire — 17 winners, 82 ricks, 20.7%, ±535.39; J Osborne — 14 winners, 71 ricks, 18.7%, 519.49; A F McCoy — 13 winners, 35 ricks, 37.1%, ±511.64.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Mr Gordon Bennett (1.40), Starlight Fool (2.10), Kyle David 22.401.

12.101. WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS; None. LONG-IUSTANCE RUNNERS: Mr Agriwise (1.10) & Holdinglose (2.10) have been sent 186 miles by R Friex from Buckfastleigh, Devon.

1 –			
	L10	HIGH FRONT' NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) 2m Penalty Value £2,910	£2,925 added
11		CARLITO BRIGANTE (1.1) Gody Barribud) P Webber 5 11 5	
2		CLASSIC MODEL (The Roan Racing Syndicate) J Tuck 6 11 5	
ľ3	- 3	COUNTRY LOVER (8) (Pond House Gold) M Pipe 6 11 5	R Dummondy V
4	00-	FRED JEFFREY (286) (L.G. Kimbert A Turnel 6 11 5	C Rea (7)
5	90	GALWAY BOSS (47) (A Mrs. John Poynton) I Wilhams 5 11 6.	B Powed
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17	65	MUSIC PLEASE (18) (BF) (Mrs David Thompson) A Balley 5 11 5	notword A
18		MICKY WIEDE (Uplands Bloodstock) C Brooks 7 11 5	
9	33	POT BLACK UK (38) (A Love) P Hobbs 6 11 5	G Tormey
10	H-OA-A	SCBOO (80) (Mrs P Hutchinson) R Peacock 8 11 5	
11	20	TODD (USA) (14) (A H Harvey) A Harvey 6 11 5	J A McCarthy
12 13 14	5	TREE CREEPER (62) (Mrs C C Williams) A Turnet 5 11 5	Harvey
13		BRIGHTLING FAIR (Am Bath) Mess A Newton-Smith S 11 0	K McCarthy (7)
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FORM GUIDE

CARLITO BRIGANTE, winner of timer Plat races and fourth of 17 behind Wilcuma in lest year's Magnet Cup it York, tooks posed to open his hurding account. Formerly trained by Lynda Ramsen and now with Paul Webber, the selection finished a seven-length runner-up behind Reset The Force when market leader on his hurdling bow at Ascot in November and he followed that with fourths to Daraydan at Cheltenham and to Thumph Hurdle hope Secret Spring at Kempton. Carlito Brigania was 17 lengths admit of Daraydan at Prestbury Park out was only two and a half lengths behind him at Kempton. Country Lower's three Flat incomes included one at Goodwood in 1996 and he will have benefited from his first run over timbre when their seturat amant recruit Liviush at Newton Abbot eligit days ago. There is a tones included one at Goodwood in 1996 and he will have benefited from his first run over tribber with against smart recruit, Juyush at Newton Abbot elight days ago. There is a race wating for Tree Creeper, who shaped with promise on his only run to date when fifth behind Ready Money Creek at Windsor in November. He is by good jumps size Ring's Ride out of on unfaced full-aster to useful chaser Buck Willow but might need further. Disad-lowed, the only one with wanning hundling form here, came home by four lengths on her first appearance over timber at Chettenham in December but was beaten 31 lengths when sev-enth to Summer Spelf at Kempton 11 days ago.

Selection: CARLITO BRIGANTE

1.40 1.0W PRESSURE NOVICE HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS E) £2,925 added 2m Penalty Value £2,448

MUSSELBURGH

1.20 Falcon's Flame 1.50 Chorus Line 2.20 Ar-

lan Spirit 2.50 Wayuphill 3.20 Highland Park 3.50 Trump 4.20 Country Orchid

GOING: Good to Firm (Firm in back straight).

Eight-hand oval course with tight turns.

Course is 5m E of Edinburgh on A.I. Bus link from Edinburgh station firm. ADMISSION: Club 5 12; Tattersuis 58 (OAFs and unemployed 53). Accompanied under-1 6s free. CAE PARK: Free.

BENNERRED FIRST THEE School Of Science (2.20); Chester (3.20).
WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: None.
LONG-DISTANCE RUNNERS: Not. To Panic (2.20) & Midas

1.20 MCEWANS EXPORT NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 added 2m

(4.20) have been sent 370 miles by K Burke from Ginge, Oxon.

,	055-P	KINGS VISION (76) (Atrs C 5 Wasser) W Jenks 5 10 0 T Jenks
10	5/066/	URSHIP-JADE (1181) (Cary Rocens) J U'Shea 9 10 0 17 Nolon (7)
u	O/OPP/O	SORER (SLAND (12) (Mrs O Thomas Mrs O Thomas 8 10 0
12	0000-86	ALPHA LEATHER (53) (Postap Racing) L Grassick à 10 0
13	502	LAUGHING BUCCAMEER (48) (BP) (D N Carry) O Carry 4 10 0 B Pontal
LA	P-40P0	MR CORDON BENRETT (5) (N D Essen) R Dicker 6 10 0
15	CP-OFFU	LIPHAM RASCAL (SS) (R E Brainworth D Gardollo 6 10 0
din Na	Leather 9	ht: 10st, True handicap weight hungs Victori 9st 12th, Ursh-Jade & Scher island 9st 7th, A- st 4th, Laughing Buccaneer 9st 3th, Air Gordon Bennett & Upham Raccal 9st 2th,
E ng	TING: 3-1 Buccanes	King Rat, 7-2 Semment, 4-1 Fastiel Gold, 11-2 Trouvallie, 7-1 Time Leader, 8-1 Leugh- r, 8-1 Timal, 14-1 Milling Brook, 25-1 others
		FORM OUIDE
-		the season of th

FORM GUIDE

TAME LEADER, modest though he is, might prove the answer to this week heat dropped 5th since last timed and with good claimer Xawer Azpuru taking off 7th, Robin Dickin's numer didn't appear to last home on his last two outings over longer trips at Hereford and Leicesper but was bearen only a length and a half by Burtington Som histo was completing a natificial at Easter three races ago. That was over two and a quarter and Time Leader will be suited by the return to today's trip, at which distance he ran third behind indrapput at Worcesper and the suited by the return to today's trip, at which distance he ran third behind indrapput at Worcesper and the suited by the result in November, King Rat has soored nine times on the level over the years and rates a threat even if he was a dozen lengths off the winner in finishing second to Star Selection at the start of the progress of the second start the second secon

Hereford just belong Christmas and hasn't raced since. Trouvalite has taken minor honours in his last two outings but his most recent run behind Poly Amanshaa was back in Ann. Beaumont's lost outing over hirdles was a third, at two and a half lengths, to Circus Colours when odds-on at Fakenthom last March, having previously finished a three-length runner-up behind Backgimmon at Utbaseter. Jack Banks's charge will not tack for fairess, however, because he scored three times on the Flat lost season and ran three weeks ago at Wolver- hompton though finishing well bearen when going off a hot favourite. Selection; TIME LEADER
2.10 ROSCOE HARVEY MEMORIAL NOVICE CHASE (CLASS D) £5,000 added 2m 4f 110yds Penalty Value £4,042
1 3121-22 DREAM PRISE (52) IC G Clarke and G C Mordaumi O Netroison 7 11 4
2 0006/0 EXEUS (40) Oles S Dougas-Pennant) J King 7 11 4 Communication C Mande
3 3151-42 HOLDBACLOSE (70) (Mrs C Lozel R Frost 7 11 4 Frost
A D-POADO DIRECK DECISION (SE) MAY F M Decision I Constrain 6-11 A MY Even (7)

NG: 1-2 Orean Ride, 7-2 Holdinglose, 10-1 Startight Fool, 14-1 Eleur, 16-1 Quick Decision

David Nicholson, who used to train for Brigadier Roscoe Harvey, would deanly love to win the first running of this prize and he can do the trick with DREAM RIDE. A real model of consistency over hurdes in 1995-96 with two wins and six places from eight starts, the son of King's Role has been besten by useful mass in finishing second in both his chases - Oh So Risky at Ascot and Or Royal at Chepstow, where only two finished. Dream Ride has much

ni ni	an	now ma	long his debut over the larger obstacles. Select	ion: DREAM RIDE
ic	[2.40	MACKENZIE CONSULTING NOVICE HURDLE £3,000 added 2m 4f 110yds Penalty Value :	E (CLASS E)
	1	1	HARBOUR ISLAND (10) (D) (Maicoim 8 Junes) M 1 cz 5 11 11	
	2	5-00	GALE WARGAME (47) (Lady Lloyd Wester) O Sherwood 8 11 5	
st	3	OP.	KYLE DAVID (14) (Supercraft Ind & Farm Buildings Ltd) F Jordan 5 11 5	P Hide 8
DV.	4	6	STORMYFAIRWEATHER (89) (Mrs C'Hanbury) N Henderson 5 11 5	M A Fitzstocald
	5	-	SWEET LORD () S Networking Solutions Ltd) M Bradstock 8 11.5	P Holley
d	ā	042-P06	SWEET TRENTINO (43) (R CSmirt) M Tare 6 11 5	
-	7		THE BREWMASTER (59) Llotin Poynton & Mr Jim Brewer I Williams 5 1	
rk.	8		MOTOQUA (20 (Mrs Claye Smrth) O Nicholson 5 11 0	
>	8	5P5	QUIET MOMENTS (56) (The Furniture Shop) P Murphy 4 10 6	R Farget

FORM GUIDE

HARBOUR ISLAND was a decent stayer on the Flat when trained by Michael Stoute, win-ning at Lingfield in 1995, while he ran third behind Orchestra Stall at Newcastle last Au-gust concoding the useful winner 2tb. Sold for 20,000 girs at the Newmarket Auturnn Sales, the Rainbow Quest five-year-old made a bingit start to his jumping career when second geas-ing up 16 lengths over just short of today's trip at Haydock 10 days ago and he will be even ing up 15 lengths over just short of today's trip at Haydock 10 days ago and he will be even better as a result of the expenence. Metoque, a Mitoto mare who gets 11th from Harbour Island, is the one he has to bear. David Nicholson's Irish acquisition won a Gowan bumper in June and would probably have finished second to Red Blazer on her hundling debut at Towcester if she hadn't fallen at the final flight. She was bearen seven lengths by Jujush at Newton Abbot eight days ago but that winner looked a smart recruit and she was 10 fongths clear of the third. Country lover to runner in the opener here). Pick of the others should be hundling debutant Stormyrlahwearther, who has the right sort of pedigree for jumping being by Strong Gale out of a Menetek full-sister to Western Sunset, who was a smart chasser. Noch Handesson's charge, third in a maketin this point-to-port lest year, finished a 14-length sidth of a big field behind Quni Eagle in a two-mile Kampton bumper in November on his British debut and wiff be suited by this longer distance. Selection: HARBOUR SELAND

•	3.10	'WIND CHILL' NOVICE CHASE (CLASS D) £4,950 added 3m 2f Penalty Value £3,753
	P-P2213	FLOWSY TRUTH (10) (M of Cestor) NI Waston 11 11 10 Mr M Henris
i	3522P-U	ARR EFF BEE (73) P R Wheeler J Swith 10 12 5 A Thomson JULTURA (65) Wan C Elect Williams 8 11 5 B Powell
	POORGA	MUSICAL HIT (SZ) (Ats E M Whoton, P Promata 6 12 5 Relating WESSEX MILORO (681) (Ats J C Blackwell) i Bennett 12 %: 5 Relating
		- 5 decisred -

FURMSY TRUTH looks best. The 11-year-old, after a couple of seconds, gamed a well-comed win at Chetrenham (3m 1f) in December, beating the odds-on Wee Windy three lengths and he ran as nell as could be expected when a 13-length thad (of four to smart nouse Simply Dashing at Hoydock, Juliana was in that place when he buindered and unseated three fences out on his reappearance in Don Du Cadren's race at Hereford in November on his first outing since the spring. The eight-year-old, who landed a hurdle race and finished numer-up in both his chases last term, looks the one most likely to trouble the selection.

3.40	LONG RANGE NOVICE HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS E) £4,075 added 2m Penalty Value £2,850
	LUCKY EDDIE (47) JL Shedr P Hotzs 6 12 0
50-1F63	BRAZE, OR BUST (4) (CD) Mrs C A Vamers) P Vice/se 6 12 0
	COVER POINT (43) (Mrs Arme Herson) J FreGerald 6 11 7
61215	COOLTEEN HERO (64) (D) (J P M & J W Cooks R Afre: 7 10 12 W McFartand
233-666	SNOWY PETREL (50) IMrs Lacqueine Corroy I & Saley 5 10 8 A Thornton B
/8/1-P2P	FLAMING MIRACLE (55) (George Barrett) G Barrett 7 10 1
050-6PR	HEATHYARDS BOY (38) (LA Morgan; O McCon 7 10 0
	- 7 declared -
Carlo PER MARAN	the This handson worth Honda and Day Cet 10th.

Minimum weight: 20st. True handcap weight: Hearhards Bry Set 10th, BETTINE: 7-4 Cover Point, 3-1 Lucky Eddie, 7-2 Bracil Or Brast, 9-2 Flaming Minacle, 7-1 Snowy Petes, 8-1 Coolteen Hern, 33-1 Hearthyands Boy
FORM GUIDE
COVER POINT ran a sound race when third to Crosshot at Newcastle in December in what was not only his chasing debut but also his first appearance in 20 months. Richard Durwoody, who partnered the su-year-old on that occasion, again teams to ment Juminy FitsGerald's runner and tooks set to go one better. Bradil Or Bust won over hurdles lest season and went in over Course and distance when making his fencing debut in November, maetering Slangsby (a dual subsequent senery a neck. However, Brazil Or Bust Ecems to have lost his way since and it might be left to fusicly Eddie to chase Cover Point home. Philip Hobbs's charge, who won first time up over timer last season, was a two-ord-a-hapf-length numer up to Ut Hamlang (five wins this team) at Taurison last time and will have been well schooled for this first attempt over fences. Flaming Minacle, whose only win to far came in a selling bandcap hurde at Unioneer tast season, was greatly flamered when beaden so lengths by Multiglan at the same brack in November. That came in between being guilled up at Worcester and at Southwell.

Selection: COVER POINT

4.10	'SLOW THAW' STANDARD OPEN NATIONAL HUI (CLASS H) £1,500 added 2m Penalty Value	NT FLAT RACE £1,476
:	1 LORD FOLEY (NZ) (S9) (CD) (Foley Steetstock J O'Shea 5 11 11	Victori Breman (6)
	2 BIG PERKS (105) (R A H Perkins) P Dergin 5 11 4	C Mande
	BUCKS REEF (John Astburyl A J Wilson 5 11 4	potenceT A
	BULIKO BOY (NZ) (Nonodys Partnership) P Hotos 5 11 4	
	2 COBLE LANE (50) Upon Poynton & Mr Jim Brevert Yallams 5 11.4	
	GINGER WATT (Hugh 6 McGahon) R Proe 5 11 4	
	D GREMATIC (10) (Mrs J Hossi N Hande 6 11 4	
	MAJESTIC AFFAIR (Kinghas' Racing) N Henderson 5 11 4	
	MASTER PIP (Andrew Shenston) A Foster 5 11 4	
١	ROYAL MOST (I H C Roung) Mrs J Pliman 6 11 4	
. 0	SANOVILLE LAD (300) (Mrs O Thomas) Mrs O Thomas 5 11 4	Goy Lewis (3)
	SHEEPCOTE HILL (J E Brown) O Nightison 6 11 4	R Massey (3)
	O SHEET LIGHTNAMS (40) (The G & P Partnershop R Smith 5 11 4	
	SILENT CRACKER (R C G Smeth) R Dicken 5 11 4	
	5 STAVMORE (69) (Uplands Bioodstock) C Brooks 5 11 4	
	SUPER HOVA (VI E Dudley) C Hemsley 6 11 4	
	TINGRITH LAD (259) Util Plumb) J Bennett 5 11 4	Harvey
	LUCRATIVE PERK (52) (Eddie Wilhinson) Mess C Caroe 5 10 13	
	PAPER TIGRESS (293) (A M Amitage) D Nicholson 6 10 13	Mr R Thornton (5).
	SPUNKE (Jim Short) R Johnson Houghton 4 10 6	mozadol, R.,
	MISS MIGHTY (H K & Sampson) J Peacock 4 10 1	R Dellarry

3.50 MCEWANS LAGER NOVICE CHASE (CLASS E) £4,200 added 3m

4.20 WEATHERBYS STARS OF TOMORROW NH FLAT RACE (CLASS H) £2,000 2m

10 NEIDAS (41) A Bude 5 11 12 P Carborry
CASTILE BAY (Lungo 5 11 5 R Supple
CO CHEET OF INDICASSINI (228) 687 S Netherel 5 11 5. 6 Lee (3)
COTISTOWN BOY (3) Mrs S Brackure 6 11 5 M Fester

OP-AUFP BROOMHILL DUKER (41) J H Johnson 7 11 5

RACING'S FUTURES MARKET

Bookmakers' ante-post lists are racing's futures market. Readers can catch up with the latest developments - best prices are in bold - in this sphere with The Independent's Tuesday service.

Tote Gold Trophy Handicap Hurdle: Mistinguett is a toppriced 13-2 with the Tote -William Hill and Ladbrokes go 5-1, while Direct Route is 10-1 (Tote) - Ladbrokes go 6-1. Storm Damage is 20-1 (Ladbrokes) - Coral, William Hill and the Tote all go 12-1.

Champion Hurdle: Sanmartino is 12-1 (Coral) - Ladbrokes go 8-1. Istabraq is 16-1 (Coral and William Hill) - Ladbrokes go 10-1. Triumph Hardle: Shooting

Light is 8-1 (Coral and Ladbrokes) - the Tote go 6-1 after Saturday's victory over 2m1f at Cheltenham, while White Sea is 16-1 (Coral) Ladbrokes and the Tote go 10-1.

Cheltenham Gold Cup Chase: Dublin Flyer is 12-1 (Coral) - Ladbrokes go 8-1 - after his success over 2m5f at ture, King Of The Gales. Cheltenham on Saturday.

Direct Route (J.H.Johnson/9st128) 8-1

Dato Star U M Jefferson/10st13lb) 12-1

Mister Morose (N T-Davies/10st3lb) 12-1

Romanoer (N Twisten-Dawes/10s(4b) 16-1

Castle Sweep (D Nicholson/11st) 18-1

Storm Damage (P.F. Nicholis/10stillb) 12-1

Blansey (R Akenurst/10st11b)

Horse (Trainer/weight) Mistinguett (N T-Davies/10st3lb) Make A Stand (M Pipe/10st3lb) Penny A Day (Mrs M Reveley/10sr2lb) 5-1

The Tote bet on Saturday's Sandown Handicap Hurdle over 2m6f at Sandown: 5-1 Yahmi (10st), 11-2 Ocean Hawk (12st), 6-1 Tullymurry Toff 10st3lb, 7-1 Erzadjan (10st), 9-1 Freddie Muck (10st5lb). 10-1 Lochnagrain (10st), 11-1 Out-set (10st), 11-1 Tarrs Bridge (9st111b), 12-1 Arithmetic (9st7lh), House Captain (9st10b), Runaway Pete (10st), Sohrah (11st2lh), 14-1 Anzum (10st13lb), Burnt Imp (10st7lb), Fired Earth 10st6lb), 16-1 Angelo's Double (10st7lb), Lansdowne (10st), 20-1 Putty Road (12st), Tim (9st5lb), 25-1 Express Gift (10st12lb), Mr Ker-mit (10st1lb), Top Spin (10st10lb), 33-1 Lucky Blue

(10st4lb), 50-1 Dark Honey (8st13lb), Ismeno (8st9lb). Ladbrokes bet on Sunday's Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup Chase over 3m at Leopardstown: 6-4 Imperial Call, 7-2 Jo-dami, The Grey Monk, 7-1 Merry Gale, 10-1 Belmont King, Danoli, 33-1 Idiots Ven-

<u> Tote Gold Trophy Handicap Hurdle (2m 110yds)</u> 7.1 6-1 10-1 14-1 12-1 14-1

20-1

lan Davies

16-1

16-1

20-1 20-1

Champion I	lurdle	(2m 110)	yds)	
Horse (Trainer)	Coral	William Hill	Ladbrokes	_ Tobi
Collier Bay (J Old)	7-2	3-1	3-1	7-2
Large Action (O Sherwood)	5-1	5-1	4-1_	5-1
Space Trucker (Wrs J Hammaton)	7-1	6-1	8-1	8-1
Sanmartino (D Nicholson)	12-1	10-1	8-1	8-1
Dato Star (J M Jefferson)	12-1	14-1	12-1	14-1
I'm Supposin (K Prendergasi)	12-1	12-1	10-1	14-1
Mistinguett (N 7wston-Dawes)	14-1	16-1	20-1	14-1
stabrag (A O'Bnen)	16-1	16-1	10-1	14-1
Castle Sweep (D Nichobson)	20-1	20-1	20-1	20-1
Boentroom Shuffle U Gifford)	20-1	20-1	25-1	16-1

Each-way a quarter the ocks, places 1, 2, 3, 4 (Newbury, Saturday, 8 February)

Triump	h Hurdi	e (2m 1f		
Horse (Trainer)	Corel	Willem HIR	Ladbrokes	Tota
Shooting Light (P G Murphy)	8-1	7-1	8-1_	6-1
Summer Spell (N Henderson)	14-1	12-1	10-1	10-1
White Sea (M Pipe)	16-1	14-1	10-1	10-1
Possine Secret (M Pipe)	16-1	20-1	16-1	14-1
Far Dawn (Mrs A J Peneu)	25-1	25-1	20-1	20-1
Grimes (C Roche)	25-1	20-1	20-1	25-1
Merewang (P.F. Nicholis)	25-1	25-1	20-1	25-1
Soldat (D Nicholson)	25-1	25-1	25-1	20-1

Cheftenham Gold	Cup Ci	iase (Sill	ZI LLUYU	15)
Horse (Trainer)	Coral	William Hill	Ladbrokes	Total
Imperial Call (F Sutherland)	7-2	7-2	7-2	7-2
Coome Hiti (W Dennis)	8-1	6-1	6-1	8-1
One Man (G Richards)	8-1	7:1.	5-1	7-1
Addington Boy (G Richards)	14-1	14-1	16-1	14-1
Dubliz Flyer (T Forster)	12-1	10-1	8-1	11-1
Dorans Pride (M Hourigan)	10-1	9-1	10-1	9-1
Mr Mulligan (N Chance)	14-1	14-1	12-1	14-1
The Grey Monk (G Richards)	16-1	12-1	10-1	14-1
Banjo (D Nicholson)	16-1	20-1	16-1	18-1
Jodami (P Beaumont)	20-1	20-1	14-1	16-1

MERED

STALLS: Inside, except of & 1re (outside).

GOING: Standard.

HYPERION L30 Madrina 2.00 Soaking 2.30 Mellors (nb) 3.00 Double Crest 3.30 Time Can Tell 4.00 Star Talent

DRAW ADVANTAGE: Middle to low best for 5f & 6f.

Lethand, sharp course (Equitrack surface).

Course is south-east of town on B2028. Lingfield station (served Victoria) adjoins course, ADMISSION; One en 59. CAR PARK: Club 53; remainder free.

BUNKERED FIRST TIME: Mr Hocker (2.00) WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: Tachycardia (2.30) & Members (3.30) both won here on Saturday.

LONG-DISTANCE EUNNERS: Madrina (1.30) has been sent

- 12 declared
BETTIMS: 5-2 Folcon's Figure, 3-1 Best Of All, 7-2 Shiperolin, 4-1 Maple
Bey, 12-1 High Hope Heavy, 14-1 On The Off Chance, 18-1 others

Of Science 9st 10th, Seconds Away 9st 7th, Rubeline 9st 4th,
BETTIMS: 7-2 Aring Spirit, 5-1 Pangloran, 3-1 School Of Science, Finning
Hope, The Next Waltz, 10-1 Utile Redwing, 12-1 others 1.50 BEAMISH RED IRISH ALE NOVICE CHASE (CLASS E) £4,200 added 2m

2.20 GALLESPIE MALT STOUT NOVICE HANDI-CAP HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 2m 4f 13 45PP-55 SCHOOL OF SCHOOL OF SCHOOL (18) 0 Notes 7 10 0 ___ \$ McCorrects (7) 8
14 0-05020 SECONOS ANAY (10) | Goids 5 10 0 ____ 6 Cabill

1.30 LANDAU HANDICAP (CLASS D) £4,900 added 5f

BETTING: 5-2 Nijes, 3-1 Sety Stade, 3-1 Chemicast, 6-1 The Institute Boy, 7-1 School Ridge, Lord Stoj, 10-1 Madrina 2.00 DOG CART CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS E) £4.025 added 1m 2 0602:1 SOARMA (22) Added J.m

1 26810-0 GREATEST (10) (C) (D) Niss Gay Relicusy 8 9 5 _D Holland S

2 0602:1 SOARMA (22) (CD) P Burgare 7 9 5 ____ D R McCabe 1

3 102:02 MASHANT (5) (C) (0) (6) A Bure 9 9 3 ____ X Steel (7) 4 3

4 600203 SHARP N SHART (12) (C) 8 Smart 58 13 ___ S Sandlers 3

5 550-302 INVOCATION (10) (C) 6 L Moor 10 8 9 ____ A Clark 6

6 00000 MR HACKER (155) 6 Thomas 48 5 ____ C Ratter 8 8

7 584-200 SPERCER'S REVENEE (11) (CD) N Traiter 8 8 5 _ S Sandlers 7

8 405006 UONS (33) P Burler 4 8 4 _____ J Brambill (5) 2

BETTING: 2-1 Sonking, 11-4 Invocation, 6-1 Hashant, 7-1 Sharp 'n Smart, Greetest, 6-1 Spencer's Revenes, 12-1 others

BETTING: 9-4 Tumberkino, 3-1 Wayaphil, 4-1 Purkum, 6-1 Viceridge, 7-1 Grand Scenery, 10-1 Rupid Mover, 12-1 others

3.20 MCEWANS 70/- HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS D) £5,000 added 3m

2.30 PHAETON HANDICAP (CLASS F) £3,300 added 6f 3.00 SULKY MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £4,900 added 1m 2f

2-4,500 BRUIGE THE ZT

OO: ALRECO (S6) I Wilkers 4 9 10...

CURRER BELL C Murray 4 8 5...

S ON THE RESEN (121.) A Hale 4 9 5...

24022-3 PASSAGE CREEPING (12) S DOW 4 8 5...

PLENTY OF SUNSHME I Campbel 4.8 5...

PLENTY OF SUNSHME I Campbel 4.8 5...

500-2 BAMEDH (18%) (14) S Wilkers 3 8 3...

55-4 DOUBLE CREST (15) M. JOHNSON 3 7 12...

- 6 declared Micele Howarth 6
______ J Stack 6
_____ A Cultume 2
i_____ S-Sanders 8 E - 6 declared BETTING: 7-4 Besheth, 11-4 Passage Creeping, 3-1 Double Crest, 6-1 On
The Plets, 12-1 On The Green, 14-1 others

3.30 BROUGHAM HANDICAP (CLASS E) £4,025 added 3YO 1m 2f 2144-43 TRME CAN TELL (2) C Manay 9 7 Marker 2 13.5 Drowne 2 0004-12 CHATEANHERNILT (17) (00) (65) P Hastern 2.13.5 Drowne 3 0204-3 LAWN LOTHARDO (20) M Johnston 8 11 J Week 2 0050-01 MERIODZA (3) (C) D Mursy, Smith 6 11 (Set J Brannini (5) 1 - 4 deciared -BETTING: 4-5 Chatpucherauft, 7-2 Time Can Tell, Mendeze, 6-1 Lawa Lotherio

CHIEF CHIPPLE W Kemp 4 10 7 ______

- 15 declared BETTING: 5-2 Country Orchid, 7-2 Ketser, 4-1 Castle Bay, 8-1 Midas, 12
1-Chief Of Rhorassus, 18-1 Buddlein, 20-1 others

4.00 HANSOM LIMITED STAKES (CLASS E) £4,025 added 7f 1 00313-4 BARREL OF HOPE (20) (D) (BIP) JL Byes 5 9 10

- 7 declared BETTING: 5-2 Barrel of Hope, 3-1 Enger To Piezse, 7-2 Star Talent, 8-2
Mandrew, 5-1 Hattleberry, 20-1 Cross Of Valour, 25-1 Worldwide Eisle

New career for Legend

The smart Flat stayer Midnight Legend is heing prepared for the Royal Sun Alliance Hurdle at the Cheltenham Festival. The six-year-old who won the March Stakes as a three-year-old and purchased out of Luca Cumani's yard by the Uttoxeter chairman, Stan Clarke, is now in the care of David Nicholson. Yesterday's results, page 23



It seems to me that allowing tactical substitutions in internationals is potentially the most important of all the recent changes

Rob Andrew recently wrote in Thomas's rugby uncle. In the game, another newspaper that he did not see the point of having Jonathan Davies on the substitutes' bench. A player of Davies's stature and experience, Andrew went on, should be either in the team or out of it. I besitate to disagree with someone who is very nearly Davies's equal as an outside-half, but I do.

It may be that Andrew is too close to the problem. He puts himself in the position of Davies and imagines that Jack Rowell has asked him to shadow Paul Crayson (restored to the England side against Scotland), on the bench. Presumably he would not like it one little bit. I cannot say

Davies, by contrast, seems per-fectly happy to act as Arwel he is already.

he has done everything, as, indeed, has Andrew. In fact, Andrew has done more: he has played for the Lions. This is Davies's one remaining ambition. If the Lions' manager, Fran Cotton, bas any sense, he will take him to South Africa in the summer, whether as an outside-balf, as a full-back or as a utility three-

I do not, however, want to discuss the composition of the Lions party at this stage but, rather, the question of substitutes. It seems to me that allowing tactical substitutions in internationals is potentially the most important of all the recent changes. It makes the coach or manager even more influential than

To a certain extent, admittedly, tactical substitutions have always been made, ever since substitutes were allowed. A player who was not performing well might suddenly go down with a mysterious injury to his ankle. I have even seen an out-ofsorts kicker being replaced by someone else who, by happy chance, is also able to take pot shots at the

Such subterfuges will no longer prove necessary. At any rate, one hopes not. Against Scotland, Davies came on as an old-fashioned substitute for Scott Gibbs, who had injured his ribs. Considering the damage Gibbs had inflicted on the ribs of assorted Scotsmen, this was justice of a kind. But Kevin Bowring, the Welsh coach, also sub-



stituted Craig Quinnell for Mark Rowley and Gwyn Jones for Colin

I should have expected the last change at least to be reflected in the team to play Ireland. Last season,

open-side flankers and a virtual certainty for the Lions. And Charvis, though he bas had several impressive outings for Wales, did miss a gift of a try against Scotland, when be knocked on (or, rather, simply spilled the ball) with no one to impede his passage to the line.

Whether players who, like Charvis, bave borne the heat and hurden of the day should be penalised for one mistake is an arguable question. I tend to take the unsympathetic view that only the front five forwards should be exempt from the obligation of being able to eatch the ball in reasonable circumstances such as those in which Charvis found himself. Even this

Manifestly, Bowring does not take this stern view. He has retained Charvis against Ireland and picked an unchanged team, with Davies, Jones and Craig Quinnell back on the bench. After his marvellous display at Murrayfield, Thomas's retention was inevitable and right. But Wales are very fortunate to be able to put Davies on the field in his place if things go wrong, as they did in Dublin last season. They are even more fortunate that Davies is prepared to accept this situation with fortitude, equanimity and even a de-gree of cheerfulness.

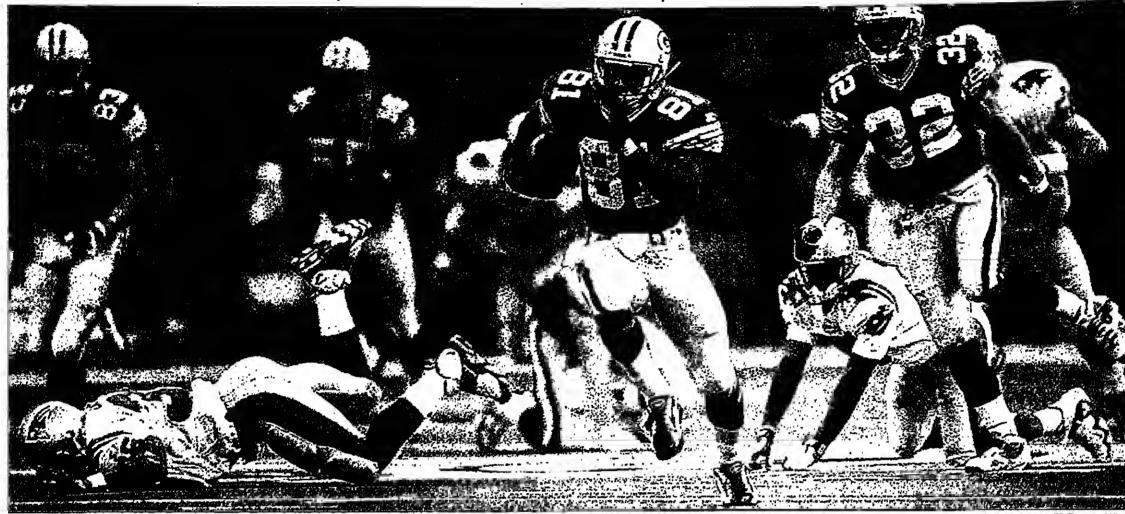
Substitutions can also be used deliberately to introduce new players to international rugby. Five I would

Smith, now restored to the Scottish side – regarded as one of the best these more stringent times.

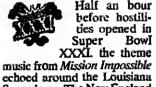
concession may be out of date in Nathan Thomas (already capped as these more stringent times. Greenwood, Austin Healey and Alex King for England.

England's equivalent of Jonathan Davies is Jeremy Guscott. Whether he is taking it so equably I rather doubt. He certainly has reason to feel piqued. He is the finest centre England have produced since Jeff Butterfield or, if you count him as a centre rather than a wing, since David Duckham. Yet Rowell is not only failing to pick him in his best position, outside centre: he is also picking two inside cen-tres in Phil de Glanville and Will Carling. I am afraid I cannot always keep up with Rowell's mental

SUPER BOWL XXXI: Packers' special team deliver the decisive punch. Matt Tench reports from New Orleans



Howard's way destroys Parcells' dream



music from Mission Impossible echoed around the Louisiana Superdome. The New England Patriots were not on the pitch at the time, which was probably just as well. Had they heard it, they might have realised the task ahead of them.

In the ensuing three hours, the Patriots put up a resolute performance against a Green Bay Packers team who fully lived up to their reputation for outstanding offense and defense. In the end, though, Bill Parcells' side were undone in an area of the game at which they usually excel. Parcells, the Patriots' head coach, takes pride in the special teams unit he coaches, but he, like they, could only watch in awe as Green Bay's Desmond Howard plotted a dizzying path through a

Half an bour mass of Patriot tacklers for a 99yard kick-off return.

The run from one end zone to the other set a Super Bowl record. More significantly, it was a devastating response to a Patriots scoring drive that threatened to make the game close late in the third quarter. In a contest pleasingly punctuated by changes of momentum, Howard's way proved the final shift, and the Pack beld on to their 35-21 advantage, to claim their first Super Bowl since the

days of Vince Lombardi. "I thought we might have had them rocking at 27-21," Parcells said. "We had momentum on that drive and our defense was playing a lot hetter. The game turned on that play."

Howard was a worthy recipient of the game's Most Valuable Winner award, totalling 244 yards on punt and kick-off returns. "I give Desmond Howard full credit," Parcells said. "He has great speed and made some

people miss. It's the first time this year we have been outplayed on special teams."

For Howard it was an extraordinary denouement to a campaign that began with his career in jeopardy. Five years after winning the Heisman Trophy as college football's best player, he arrived in Wisconsin in the summer having been cut by his previous two teams. A hip injury almost ended his Packer career before it started, but a touchdown return in an exhihition game secured his place on the roster, and he has produced a vintage season.

Howard's was the decisive moment of a Super Bowl that produced more big plays than a Shakespeare festival, and almost lived up to the hype. The tone was set on Green Bay's opening drive, when their quarterback Brett Favre challenged the Patriot hlitz. Favre's tendency to be wayward early on attracted much comment in

the build-up, but his first throw in the biggest game of his life produced an inch-perfect traectory over the advancing safeties for a 54-yard scoring reception to Andre Rison.

When, with less than seven minutes played, the Pack capitalised on Drew Bledsoe's interception on the Patriots' second possession by adding a field goal, it seemed another AFC team were destined for national bumiliation. However, the Pats responded with characteristic Parcells savvy and, thanks to repeated use of play action, promptly put together two scoring drives, so that at the end of a compelling first quarter they were - remarkably ahead 14-10.

The Pack then made some adjustments, and as their pass rush began to disrupt Bled-soe's rhythm so Favre demonstrated once again why his daring is such a crucial element in their arsenal. Another perfect arc released Antonio Freeman Leroy Butler's helmet, then for an 81-yard scoring pass. though this touchdown, like the Packers' first, owed sometouchdown run. thing to a third-rate effort from

the Patriots' secondary. The deep threat now estab-lished, the Pack were able to develop their running game and, with Dorsey Levens particularly effective, they racked up 17 unanswered points in the second quarter. When Favre's twoyard scoring run put his side 27-14 ahead shortly before the interval, it seemed that an AFC team's resistance had once again been broken before halftime, but such a conclusion only emphasised the perils of writing off a Parcells team.

Initially thwarted, a game of pens when potential is fulfilled. intriguing tactical responses then saw the Patriots, after 14 successive pass attempts, return to the run. This brought a drive which saw the Pats riding their luck - Ben Coates caught one pass then saw it rebound off

caught it again - and culminated with Curtis Martin's 18-yard

With three minutes of the third quarter remaining and six points between the teams a memorable climax beckoned. but the very next play saw Howard's kick-off return restore Green Bay's comfortable advantage and Reggie White did the rest. The Packer lineman produced three sacks and as New England became increasingly desperate so Bledsoe threw two more interceptions to take his tally to four. That was four more than Favre, and if Bledsoe showed great potential, Favre's demonstrated what hap-

Bledsne's development will almost certainly take place under a head coach other than Parcells, who appears destined for the New York Jets. His dispute with Robert Kraft, the Patriots owner, became public yesterday

Paul Tagliabue, asked to adjudicate on whether the terms of Parcells' contract allow him to coach another team in 1997.

Such a high-profile rift leaves no scope for Parcells to stay in Massachusetts. But be will leave a team infinitely stronger than the sbambles he inherited four years ago, though one still short of a defensive playmaker or two. The Pack have no such problems. "It's time the Lombardi Trophy went back to Lambeau Field," their general manager,

Ron Wolf, said as the presentation was made. For the Cheeseheads, who tested New Orleans' partying capacity to the full, there was much to celebrate. When their team last won a Super Bowl in 1968 an era was coming to a close. With virtually all their key personnel signed for at least another year, and their head coach, Mike Holmgren, at the peak of his powers, a new one may just be beginning.

Council calls for sense to prevail

Athletics

MIKE ROWBOTTOM

In submitting a bid for £5.5m of National Lottery money this week, British athletics has been called upon to get its house in order by the body which will consider that application.

Howard Wells, chief executive of the United Kingdom Sports Council - which is evaluating bids from all sports for newly avail-able money under the world-class performance programme - has called for sense to prevail in the debate over the future of the British Athletic Federation.

"I do not think that anyone would suggest that the current dministrative arrangements within athletics best serve the interests of the sport," Wells aid. "Recent developments have afforded us the opportunity to look at the situation afresb and examine options that are robust and flexible enough to support and devel-op British athletics up to and beyond the millenmints

The Council said it would need to be confident that effective management systems [m the BAF] are in place before making any decision on the allocation of funding for the

1997/98 financial year." It bas offered to play a role BAF, from which the executive chairman, Peter Radford, resigned recently, citing the lack. of freedom afforded him by fac-

tions in the sport. Roger Eady will represent the Council in meetings to be held ... this week with key BAF individuals. Eady stressed, bowever, that the "current difficulties" would not harm the prospects of individual athletes whose direct funding would be pro-

tected. In the meantime, a petition protesting against the imminent closure of athletics facilities at Crystal Palace has attracted well over 2,000 signatures and will be presented to the Sports Council - which is currently deliberating over the usage of the south London site - next week.

Carl Lewis finished equal seventh in the 100 metres at the Sydney Grand Prix yesterday, his second disappointing performance in 72 hours.

Cardiff able to consolidate title position

ice hockey

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E.

to win the inaugural Superleague title after maintaining their edge over their title rivals. Sheffield Steelers, on Sunday In a see-saw contest, Cardiff

Cardiff are now firm favourites

led 1-0, trailed 2-1 but rallied to win with two goals in the final period from Jason Stone and Steve Thornton.

It gave Devils their fourth win in the six meetings between the sides this season and, more importantly, opened a four-point gap over Steelers at the top of the table with the season now in the home straight.

The result capped a miserable weekend for Steelers. Last season's Grand Slam winners were beaten 5-2 at home by Ayr Scottish Eagles on Saturday night, while Cardiff were picking up a useful point at Basingstoke.

Ayr boosted their hopes of claiming third place with a 5-3 win over fellow hopefuls Nottingham Panthers on Sunday, while Newcastle Cobras, who are third at the moment. slumped to a 6-3 defeat at Bracknell Bees after losing their influential player-coach, Rick Brebant, who was injured.

Newcastle face character test

Rugby Union **CHRIS HEWETT**

To misquote the Beatles, money can't buy you luck. Sir John Hall, the one-man financial machine driving Newcastle's ambitious attempt to hijack the nation's sporting consciousness. has suffered a rough 24 hours on the knock-out front.

After watching his expensively assembled football team get the bum's rush from the FA Cup on Sunday, be then had to endure further pain as the draw for the Pilkington Cup quarterfinals was made yesterday.

Rugby League

The winners of last year's Silk

Cut Challenge Cup, St Helens,

must beat the side they dis-

placed if they are to make fur-

ther progress in this, the 100th

Saints were drawn at home to

Wigan, Cup winners in the pre-

vious eight seasons, in what was

easily the outstanding tie of last

season of the competition.

DAVE HADFIELD

François Pienaar, the Saracens flanker who captained glory in 1995, paired Newcastle with the winners of the Bath-Leicester tie on Saturday week.

It will be a tough test for Rob Andrew, recruhed at considerable cost by Hali 15 months ago with a brief to establish the Second Division side as an élite force in English rugby and whoever emerges victorious from the battle of The Rec will be firm favourites for the trophy. Andrew will need big perfor-mances from the substantial

number of full internationals at

his disposal; 10 played in the side

night's fourth-round draw. Even allowing for home advantage

and their aggregate win over

Wigan in the Winter Challenge.

Saints would have preferred to

avoid their oldest rivals at this

The same applies in reverse.

although the Wigan coach.

Graeme West, was philosophi-

cal. "It's a hell of a big game first

off, but if you want to get to

Wembley, you've got to be able

early stage of their defence.

that saw off London Scottish on Saturday and they will have an 11th after this weekend because the New Zealand-born Ross

> PILKINGTON CUP Quarter-final draw Newcastle v Bath or Leicester

Wakefield v Gloucester Northamoton v Sale Harlequins v Saracers Ties to be played Saturday 22 Feb. Nesdale will make his debut for Ireland in Cardiff. Nesdale gets

his chance because Allen Clarke.

the Northampton hooker, broke

a hand in the his club's cup vic-

power will prove irrelevant.

"We had a very young side

out against Saints and this will

be totally different." Last sea-

son's beaten finalists, the Brad-

ford Bulls, must make the short

journey to Hunslet. The onc

amateur side to fight their way

also based in Bradford, are not

to beat anyone who stands in so lucky. Their third-round vic- Lynx will host the London Bron-

tory over Coventry.

Diprose's side, who just made it past Wasps on Sunday. English rugby's political landscape is even more shrouded in fog. however. The power strug-gle between the Rugby Football Union and the senior clubs, rep-

At least no one could accuse

Pienaar of feathering the nest

of his own team-mates. Saracens

will meet the cup specialists

Harlequins - the second suc-

cessive London derby for Tony

month. Fat chance. Cliff Brittle, the RFU executive chairman, yesterday called an emergency meeting with the

northern outpost at Carlisle.

"It's not ideal," admitted the

Dudley Hill secretary, Mark

Tordoff, after the draw at Head-

ingley. "But I'd still like to

think that we'll be back here for

Paris St-Germain, included

in the Cup draw for the first time.

cated and renamed Lancashire

the fifth-round draw.

clubs to discuss their latest amendments to the peace formuta hammered out hefore Christmas. The clubs, convinced that their most intractable opponent is preparing to renege on the current deal, told Brittle to take a running jump.

We will not be attending and the message from the Epruc clubs is that there will be nobody there," said Mike Smith, the Saracens chief executive, "I have faxed Cliff an offensive reply." resented by Epruc, was widely Happy days. expected to run out of steam this

SWALEC CUP Seventh-round draw: Cardiff v Drias Powys; Pontypool v Whitiand; Lian-dovery v South Weles Potice; Newcastle Em-your v Bobw Vale; Swansea v Pontypridd; Carmarthen Quins v Neeth; Treordhy v Brid-gend; Abertiflery v Llanelli.

League tie is between Castleford

and Salford. Elsewhere there are

a number of ties between First

and Second Division clubs after

which the losers might reflect that

entry into the new Plate com-

petition - and which also ends at

Wembley on the hig day in May

- is not a had consolution prize.

Draw, Digest, page 25

St Helens must overcome Wigan in Challenge Cup In the Nastro Azzurro South Premier Anchorians had a convincing 5-2 win away to Gore Court and are now four points Chorley, are moving into Preston clear of Hampstead and West-North End's ground at Deepdale. The only other all-Super

> Always struggling after conceding an early goal in the opening minute to a Greg Machin penalty corner, Hampstead fought hack with goals from Mark Crowley - his 23rd of the season, Will Saxby and Rob Turner before a late equaliser from Mick Colclough

Norton are taking nothing for granted

Hockey BILL COLWILL

Norton march on relentlessly with maximum points at the top of the North Premier following their 4-1 away win over Ramgarhia at Leeds. Although they are 12 points ahead of Formby, their captain, Richard Finney, is taking nothing for granted and no coach has yet been booked for Milton Keynes and the April National League play-offs.

Finney opened the scoring against Ramgarhia. Guy Bolsover made his usual contribution with Phil Hardy converting a penalty corner and, as the opposition tired, Gary Ferguson completed the tally.

minster who surprisingly dropped points to lowly Woking in a 3-3 draw.

gave the Surrey side a point they fully deserved. Even after dropping two

points, Hampstead are seven. points clear of third-placed Wimhledon, who won 4-3 at Ashford, and look pretty certain to make the play-offs along with Anchorians. Both teams are very keen to retrieve their National League status. Gareth Machin scored twice

for City with Gys Thieme getting the third as they beat the University 3-0 in Cambridge's Gown v Town match in the Adnams East Premier. Cambridge City, six points ahead of Chelmsford, have, like Norton, yet to drop a point.

TODAY'S NUMBER

5,774

The number of AIP ranking points amassed by world tennis No 1 Pete Sampras folowing his victory in the Australian Open singles final. This breaks the record of 5,652 set by Andre Agassi In

احكناس الاحل

your way," said West, who be- tory at York has earned them a

lieves that the winter balance of trip to the professional code's

through to this stage of the com-petition. Dudley Hill, who are in the Cup draw for the first time, will be at Batley, while the relo-

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ien Orleans

NEW FACES FOR '97: One young rider has become the only Englishman in any of motorcycling's three grand prix classes to gain a factory-supplied bike next season. He talked to Andrew Martin

Robinson's fighting chance

want to tear

off the bike'

Jamic attention than a seasoo of cager progress on motorcycling's 250cc grand prix circuit.

Knocked from his saddle at crucial stage in last year's British Grand Prix. the incensed 21-year-old Yorkshireerror had ended his hones of a top-10 finish in front of an ex-pectant. Donington crowd. terms, a factory-supplied bike Robinson, a slight, boyish fig- is like entering the ring with an

ure. lunged at the bigger, helmeted rider, and chinned him. "Haweser, if I had won the event, t would not

have had so much exposure," Robin-**53V5** wryly.

an otherwise level head led to pictures of the incident from an otherwise unremarkable race flashed around the world. Robinson gained a degree of notoricty - the rider hailed as "the man who would be king" by Motor Cycle News seemed more likely to make headway under Don King.

It also marked the point when Robinson's season took a downward curve, his privateer mount proving increas-ingly unreliable, a finish ever

From three ninth places to a host of noughts. Like so many young Britons oo motorcycling's blue ribaod series. a bright prospect appeared to have missed his opportunity.

ith a single punch. So Robinson's exuberance Jamie Robinson can be forgiven when he now says: "I can't wait for the start tear the handlebars off the

Why? Because the only Englishman competing in any es - 500cc, 250cc and 125cc man flew at the rider whose has been contracted to ride a works Suzuki hike for the iron bar in

your glove. 'I can't wait for The team -Arie Motenaar the start of the Racing - is in its lirst season at season - liust 250cc after winning tast year's 125cc title with the Japanese the handlebars rider Haruchika Aoki. "Straight

away t got a really good characteristic rush of blood to feeling with the team," Robinson beams, "My life is taking such a different direction. I'm really enjoying myself now. I've got a really good feeling about my racing. I think I'll have a good year. Since I signed my deal, everything is more interesting and fun.

"I wasn't happy with the re-sults t was getting; the bike was never consistent. I just couldn't do my joh and I was really aogry with the situation and getting frustrated." That frustration was vented in the Doningtoo fisticuffs.

"I ride oo a lot of emotion -I put my heart into my joh," Robioson says. "It's not something I'm playing at - it's "It was the British Grand He knocked me off and that was it - it was just all my emotioo coming out all in one puoch. I restraioed myself before it all went 100 far, but we

The Suzuki marque carries a heady significance with British race faos. Barry Sheeou rode one to two world 500cc championships, in 1976 and 1977. Since then only Carl Foga-

got away with that one."

rty, twice a world champion in the rival World Super Bike series, has set pulses racing bore. Heoce the expectation riding on Rohinson's precocious tal-Prix: I had so much at stake. ent in what this season will be

the toughest of the grand prix With the three-times world

champion Max Biaggi staying at 250cc and the former 250cc title holder Loris Capirossi steppiog down from two years at 500cc, the competition will be testing indeed. They are joined by the top five riders from the 125cc class oo a grid cut from 36 to 24 qualifiers.

Robinson adds: "There's a clutch of good bikes out there - it's going to be exciting. It's also going to be hell. I don't really know what to expect." He will know better after testing the RGV250 in Australia and Malaysia, a world away from last year when be travelled from circuit to circuit in a camper van with little or oo

Trouble on the track: An angry Jamie Robinson (left and inset) chases after Luca Boscoscuro following their collision in the British Grand Prix at Donington last year

Photographs: Empics/Peter Jay

time to prepare the hike. "I've never gone winter testing before. Usually we'd go for a fcw days somewhere and then to the first race, Now I've got a lot of time to get things settled, get my head into the speed thing. To feel comfortable

on a new bike. Perfect." Robinsoo won his first race on his 16th birthday at Cadwell Park in 1991, and became the British 250ce champiooship four years later. He stepped up to the grand prix circuit in 1996. Raciog bikes is all he bas ever wanted to do. 'At school I'd tell people that

Photographs: Empics/Peter Jay

I wanted to be a motorcycle racer and they'd say; 'Pick a prop-er job'," Robinson says. If racing hado't happened t

would still be doing something athletic because I've got that kind of ambitioo inside me that I need to do something physical - certainly not boxing, the British Grand Prix. you youngest rider to win the wouldn't bave thought so.

and my life and I doo I want to

with such good talent and with

lots of money going into the

sport. Wheo I thought of that I

didn't have to think much longer.

I am absolutely delighted."

about it.

Hughes just happy to play his part

Mark Hughes, whose appearance as a substitute sparked Chelses's revival at Stamford Bridge oo Sunday, said vesterday that unlike some of his colleagues in the game, he was not going to complaio about being left oo the bench.

The Welsh international has peen a revelatioo alongside Gianfranco Zola in the two months sioce the Sardinian's arrival from Parma. Yet despite those superb performances, Hughes vas dropped by Ruud Gullit, the Chelsea manager, for the game with Liverpool, the Dutchman opting to pair Zola with fellow talian Gianluça Vialli.

Gullit theo brought Hughes off the beach to rescue what appeared to be a tost cause as the Blues retrieved a two-goal deficit to score four times without reply in the second half.

Hughes said vesterday that he was both "surprised and disappointed" when he discovered he nad been omitted, but the former Manchester United striker stressed that he was oot going to make a song and dance of his treatment by Gullit.

"I didn't expect it, hut Raud explained it to me and I accepted it," Hughes said. "The fact is that we've got three strikers in myself, Luca and Giprogress we've made here.

anfranco, and that's proof of the What's happened in the last couple of years is unbelicvable. We're exciting the public and the press and it's just nice to be part of it. The ambition there

is in this club is very important,

my personal ambitioo.

You want to see the club go places and I think we're really at the beginning of something special. I want to be part of it. Everybody wants to play, hut if I can I play week in, week out I'm quite prepared to bide my time.

"It was a great performance in the second ball, but I don't think we want to be two down at balf-time every match," Hughes said. "When we can put two halves together like that we'll be dangerous."

Chetsea's inspired performance in the second half was proof that the trio can all play in the same side, with Zota's magnificent strike pulling them level before Vialli's double completed the comeback.

Zola agreed Vialli had passed a key test of his resolve. "Vialli is a great player, but it wasn't an easy game for him to have to come back into," he said.

"He had a lot of pressure on him and that made it very difficult for him to play well. But if you have the sort of big personality he has, you can rise to the occasion. In the first half the way Luca and I played was a hit lim-ited, but when Mark came on the three of us played with intelligence and gave Liverpool some surprises they couldn't deal with. We're a strange team. We

can make some banal mistakes and both the goals oo Suoday were due to those sort of errors. In the second half, the whole team played very well and everybody playing like that made it possible for us to come back. But it would be hard to have to repeat that every match."

Grobbelaar is bee's knees

Bruce Grobbelaar survived a swarm of bees, a furious onslaught from ooe of Africa's leading strikers and a frantic airport dash to keep a clean sheet for Zimbabwe in their draw against Ghana io their African Nations' Cup qualify-

ng match in Harare on Sunday. The game had to be halted just before half-time wheo a swarm of bees flew over the ground, forcing the players to

crawl off the pitch with the shirts over their faces to avoid being stung. Grobbelaar, standing trial finish. It's a pleasure to talk io Britain on charges of matchfixing, was granted permission "ITV have giveo me an opby the judge at the crown court portunity to carry oo working

in Winchester to go to Harare for the vital game. The 39-yearold goalkeeper arrived on Saturday and flew back poration, said, immediately after the match. The draw pu

dium on the outskirts of the city to the airport to catch his

He made some vital late saves from the Ghanaian captain, Abedi Pele, to salvage a draw after his Zimbabwean team-mates had missed some good early chances. Before the match, a crowd of

50,000 filled the Harace Natiooal Sports Stadium aod cheered Grobbelaar onto the field. Some waved banners that said "Viva Bruce" and "Long live Bruce." We were worned Bruce wouldn't be meotally and phys-

ically fit after his tribulations in England, but he proved he's big enough for it," commentator Kelvin Sifelani, of the state Zimbabwe Broadcasting Cor-

The draw put Ghana firmly in the lead in Group One.

The voice of motor sport talks ITV into a pay rise

Motor racing

Murray Walker launched his new career with ITV yesterday by revealing he had negotiated a pay rise, but the man who has spent more than 50 years with the BBC as the undisputed said: "tt's only a modest in starting with a 90-minute qual- each race, but Neil Duncanson.

Stepheo Heodry, oo a mission to improve his relatively poor

record at the Regal Welsh

Open, quietly moved into the

last 16 of the eveot at Newport

However, Hendry, who pro-

duced a low-key display to beat

Isn McCulloch in the first

round, never approached his

devastating best during a 5-2 win 5-3.

yesterday.

commentary box by Martin in the world of Formula One coverage later to the evening. just weeks after losing his drive with Jordan.

ITV plan four shows for each

over Mick Price of Nuoeaton.

cueing fine but motivation is dif-ficult for me to find in these ear-

ly rounds." the six-times world

title in Newport since 1992, now

faces Thailand's James Wartana.

Wattana secured a place io the

last 16 by beating the 1985

world champion, Denois Taylor,

Hendry, who has not won the

champioo said.

"I am playing really well and

Hendry seeks inspiration

crease. After all, I do it basically ifying programme. There will be executive producer of ITV's at Silverstooe in 1946, revealed motor racing are my passioo a 15-minute ocws show and race Walker will be joined in the coverage itself will begin half an only the BBC which didn't have ending following last season's fihour before the start. A high-Brundle, who finds himself back lights package will wrap up

One thing guaranteed to irritate viewers, however, are five planned two-minute commervoice of British motor sport, of the season's grands prix, cial breaks which will bite into

Basketball

Worthing Bears are likely to be without their American forward Anthony Thomas for the remainder of the regular sea-

son after ha chipped an ankle bone in

last weekend's home 101-87 Budweiser League win over Leopards. He will not

come out of plaster until the middle of

MBA: New York 95 Miami 89; Milwaukoe 94 Sen Amonio 76; 1A Lakers 104 Seemie 103. EASTERN CONFERENCE

II was commercial breaks.

"Most other companies have more or longer breaks than we plan. But if we do miss anything the audieoce won't, because everything will be recorded."

The 73-year-old Walker, who

at Preston. Saga world indoor Championships

(Preston) Singles second round: G Harlow (Eng) bt D Gourlay (Sco) 6-7 7-3 7-4 2-7 7-3.

SHEFFELD SHELD (Final day of four) Ho-barts Tasmana 31.4 U Co. 961 and 17S (T M Moody 7-41); Western Australia 212 (M E Hussey 831 and 180 for 3 (Hussey 87). West-

em Australia won by seven wicadia; RED STRIPE CUP (Third day of four) Port, of Spain: Trinded and Tobago 302; Windward Islands 140 and 283 (I Sevestre 66, 2 Wat. ST; M Persad 4-55), Bridgetowns Cupran 156 and 218-3 (C Lambert 101 not out, A R Per-cui 82no); Barbados 448 for 3 dec. Angallar Jamusca 332 (F A Rose 96, 0 S Morgan 63). Leeward Islands 203 for 8.

Former Manchester City vice-chairman Freddie Pye has joined the board of First Division rivals Sheffield United. The Sheffield chairman, Mike McDonald, said: "He knows just about everyone in

the game and will be a major asset to the club."

em Australia won by seven wi

Cricket

Football

now close his career came to nal race in Japan.

"I seriously thought of jacking it in," said Walker, who has signed a two-year contract with ITV. "Damon Hill was world champioo, a good mate of mine, and it seemed a good Idea gave his first radio commentary to stop. But Formula One and

SPORTING DIGEST

conduct of their fans in European Nigena's national coach, Amodu Shalbu, has been suspended indefinitely at the weekend "for gross misconduct, in-subordination and making embarrassing remarks about its activities and the person of the sports minister," a Nigenan Football Association spokesman said. The Frenchmen, Claude Leroy and Phillipe Troussier, who both have coaching expenence in Airica, have been included on the shortlist for Shaibu's

ogainst Internazionale. Milan, Pans St-Germain, Bruges and Schalke 04 were all fined SFr30,000 for their fan's

replacement.
England's David Elleray is one of 23 leading referees who will attend a Ueda workshop in Limessol, Cypnus, on 10-11 February, it has been set up to prepare them for the final stages of the club competitions. Stephen Dunn, of England, and Scotland's Alan Freeland are to attend an introductory course for new international referees at the same venue from 13-15 February.

Rugby League
SILK CUT CHALLENGE CUP Fourth-round draw: Hunslet Hawks v Bradford Bulls; Lancashare Links v London Broncos: Festiversone Roues v Widnes Wings Badey Buddogs v Pane St Germain: Oldham Beans v Rochdale Hornets; Deusbury v Doncaster Dragons; Cartele Border Raiders v Dudley Hil; Huddersheld Garns v Hult; Walkefield Tintity v Switton Lons; Warmigon Wolvies v Berrow Braves; Hull KR v Halifax Bluesoc; Leigh Committees v Sheffield

dashing from the National Sta-

Biblana Perez, one of the leading downhill racers of the Italian Alpine team, suffered concussion when she crashed during a training run at Cortina d'Ampezzo yesterday. Her condition was de

Spooker REGAL WELSH OPEN (Newport) First round: A Robidoux (Can) bt & Snaddon (Seo) 5-4. Second round: S Hendry (Soo) bt M Price (Eng) 5-2: N Bond (Eng) bt S James (Eng) 5-5: A Robidoux (Can) bt S Ali (Peid 5-2:) Wattons (Thal) bt D Taylor (N Irl) 5-3: T Chappel (Wal) bt L Richertson (Eng) 5-3: J Hegins (Soo) bt N Walter (Eng) 5-3: M Williams (Wel) bt W Thorne (Eng) 5-1: M King (Eng) bt M Judge (Irl) 5-4.

Paul Palmer, the Olympic 400 metres freestyle silver medalist, has been forced to withdraw from the World Cup shortcourse meeting beginning in Glasgow today because of flu.

The British No 1 Tim Henman has dropped from 14 to 16 in the latest ATP world renkings, despite no loss in

form. His demotion has happened be-cause of the outstanding form of the Spaniards Carlos Moye, numer-up in the Australian Open, and Fellx Mamtilla, who was a quarter-finalist. Moye, whom Hen-man recently beat in the final of the Syd-ncy International, has jumped from 25 to 9, while Mamtilla has climbed from 19 to 15. LEADING ATP RANKINGS: 1.P Sampras (US) 5,774 pts; 2.G Vantsews (Cros) 3,565; 3 T

19 to 15.

LEADING ATP RANKINGS: 1 P Sampras (US)
5.77 Aptr.; 2 G Wantsevic (Cros) 3,558; 3 1
Muster (Aut) 1,492; 4 M Chieng (US) 3,417;
6 Y Natientou (Rus) 3,367; 6 R Krojcok (Nethil
2,371; 7 M Rios (Critic) 2,329; 8 W Farrera
(SA 2,221; 9 C Moya (Sp) 2,171; 10 T Enquer (Swe) 2,086; 11 A Costa (Sp) 2,036;
12 A Agasa (US) 1,496; 13 8 B ocker (Ger)
1,931; 14 T Marran (US) 1,840; 18 F Mantria (Sp) 1,688; 15 T Heantan (BB) 1,587;
17 S Edberg (Swe) 1,561; 18 M Guistafeson
(Swe) 1,537; 18 M Stich (Ger) 1,516; 20 A
Beräsetiegu (Sp) 1,477.
LEADING ATP PRIZE-MONEY WINNIERS: 1
P Sampras (US) 457; 178 (L286,000); 27 Woodbridge (Jus) \$263,011; 3 C Moya (Sp)
5253,888; 4 M Woodforde (Aus) \$223,011;
5 T Muster (Aut) \$131,254; 6 A O'Bhen (US)
\$122,682; 7 7 Hentran (GB) \$119,214; 8
1 Courier (US) \$115,810; 9 M Chang (US)
\$114,099; 10 S Lareau (Can) \$102,927; 11
1 Bjorfman (Swe) \$100,646; 12 P Hearhus
(Nett) \$39,774; 13 G Karusame (Cros)
77,677; 4 J Elbray (Neth) \$76,424; 15
1 Stark, (US) \$70,429; 18 M Rios (Critic)
\$47,963; 17 F Marrital Isp) \$61,131; 38 A
Costa (Sp) \$58,613; 19 S D rapper (Aus)
\$53,621; 20 R Leach (US) \$53,140.

Abarrock Prince 9-4 by 3. Parson's Lodge 66-1. 19 ran. 4, 1%, (G Richards, Greystoles). 70is: 59.30, 55.30, 51.20, 58.60, Dust Forecast. £13.30. Computer Straight Forecast. £4,63. This: £150.90 (part won, pool of £172.17 camed forward to Warwick 1.40 to W 1. Pct G8
32 11 .744
29 13 .690 24;
19 23 .452 12/;
14 26 .350 16/;
13 30 302 19
11 29 275 19/;
8 36 .182 24/; Leicester will be without their defe WORLD RANKUNGS (68 or in unless state-ed): 1. G. Normarr (Aus.) 12.28 ps; 2.7 Lehman (US) 9.96; 3.6 Montgomed 9.07; 4.E.E. (SA) 8.95.5 N. Faldo 7.93; 6.M. Oza-lu Lapent 7.58; 7.0 Love III (US) 7.56; 3.F. Couples (US) 7.30; 9.M. O'Meere (US) 6.94; reports. Kaemark for a month after he broke a bone in his left arm. The Swede, who only recently returned after a year out with ruptured knee ligaments, was injured in Saturday's FA Cup win over Norwich. 2.10: 1. BOLD BOSS (B Storey) 4-5 tav; 2. Nooran 33-1; 3. Railegio 5-2. 12 ras. 2/4. 2. IG Moore, Middietsmi, Totes £1.30; £1.10, £3.70, £1.50, DF: £15.50, CSF; £38.84. Tho: £15.10. 2.40: 1. SWANRISTER (R Supple) 5-4 fav; 2. Sasiday Lad 50-1; 3. Cettle Duke 25-1. 14 tan. 2, 16. II. Lungo, Camuterstowni, Totes £2.00; £1.50, £57.70, £1.90, DF: £86.30, CSF; £82.47. Tho: £236.80 (part won, pool of £150.10 carried forward to Warwick 1.40 today). Couples (USI 7.30; 9 M O'Mears (USI 6.94 10 C Pann (US) 6.80, Other British: 31 Wossram 4.17; 37 S Torrance 3.68; 59 Westwood 2.48; 62 D Carle 2.41; 78 / Coter 1.91; 78 P McGriley 1.88; 95 P Brood hurst 1.73; 96 P Harrington 1.72; 99 P Mitchel 1.70. 4.30: 1 FLAXLEY WOOD (8 Powel) 11-2; 2. Fawfey Flyer 8-1; 3. Total Joy 4-1 fav. 13 ran. 1/h, 4. (8 Buckley, Bridgoth: Totac £6.20: £2.50, £1.80, £2.20. PF. £27.70. CSF: £46.77. Trasst: £184.90. Trox £45.80. The Football Association of Ireland has been fined SF1,000 (£475) following incidents during a European Champi-onship Under-16 tie against Lithuania on 20 November. The Republic were SNOW REPORT - in association with Thomas Cook Ski Direct Jackgot: not wen pool of £2,638.79 car-ned forward to Warwick today). Place &: £43,92. Place &: £29,65. ice hockey beaten 2-1 in the match at Limavady, and individuals on the Insh bench were oday). 3.10: 1. KINGS SERMON IR Supple) 10-; 2. Noosa Sound 6-1; 3. Goverdale Lane L1 to: 14 ran. 1. 17. IP Beaumont, Brands-NHL: Edmonton 2 Washington 1; Plusburgh 5 Montreal 2. a.10: 1. (GINGS SERMON IR Supple) 10-1; 2. Noosa Sound 6-1; 3. Covertable Lane 3-1 to; 14 ran. 1 7: IP Beaumort, Brands-by, Totae £15,70; £4,70, £3,20, £2,40, DF: £59,40, CSF: £69,71 Tricast: £216.09, Tric £83.90. reported for their behaviour SKI HOTLINE Bowls The Portuguese club, Boavsta, has been fined SFr50,000 for the violent conduct Greg Harlow, who lost in straight sets to David Gourlay at the querter-final stage in last year's World Indoor Champi-SOUTHWELL Latest snow and weather reports from 180+ resorts in Europe and North America. of its fans in a Uefa Cup match last year 188.90. 3.40: 1. MR (MRTWIT (A Dobbri) 8-1: 2. Lansborough 4-1: 3. Judicious Captain 66-1. 10 ran, 5-4 tav Rifavan (tell. 11. 11/s. @ Montenth, Rosewell). Tote: £6.80: £1.80, £1.80, £1.30. DF: £5.20, CSF: £26.85. Troc £97.10.

4.10: 1. PHAR ECHO IR Supple: 5-1: 2. Lifebory 100-30 fax: 3. Parish 20-1. 10 ran. 1. 3. (Lungo, Carutherstown). Tote: £5.20: £1.80. £1.50. £3.80. ØF: £10.80. GSP: £20.55. Trosst: £280.54. Troc £32.60.

Placepor: £31.50. Osarbort: £12.60.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

PARST DRVISION
East Fife v St Johnstone
St Mirreo v Dundee
SECOND DRVSION
Ayr v Hamilton....... Stenbouseman THERD DIVISION Therebeath v Ross County en's Park v Albion Rovers . LEAGUE Premier Divisions Enfletd v Grays; NI V St Atlans, Third Division: Northwood v ly, Guardian Insurance Cup fourth round:

AWeey, Statemen metrespect cup found notice:
Kingstonan v Wokingham.

UNIBOND LEAGUE Premier Division: Guisetey v Frickley. President's Cup second roand:
Runcom v Barrow. League Cup third round
replay: Great Harwood v Knowsley Utd. Uniffila First Division Cup third round: Harrogster
Town v Atherton LR; Stocksondge PS v Con-

Town v American Inc. Stockschauge Private Con-gettin.
DR MARTENS LEAGUE Private Division: Atter-stone v Gloucester City; King's Lymv v Cambingle City (7.45), Middland Division: Bedworth v Pegis Rangers. League Cup third round: Menthy v RC Warwick; Sudbury Town v St Leonards Stamcroft. SMIRNOFF IRISH LEAGUE Premier Division:

derton; Nantwich v Burscough; Newcastle Town v Hidsglove. NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEABUE Premier Division; Amodá v Heilam; Hucknall v Sheffletd; Lversedge v Ossett Ablon. IFWSON EASTERN LEAGUE Promier Dide WINSTONLEAD KEMT LEAGUE First Division: Convition v Heme Bay, First Division Cop aeo-oud-round replayer. State Green v Furness; Tun-bridge Welle v Contexbury Cay. WITEHELING EXPRESS MEDILAND ALLIANCE: Bu-well v Stepenhilt West Midlands Police v Bridg-

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION First Divi-sion: Milwell v West Herri (2.0). **Rugby Union**

TOUR MATCH: Scotland Development XV v Ota-go (7.0) (at Bridgehaugh, Sathry). WELSH NATIONAL LEABUE First Division: New-bridge v Lianelli (7.0). CLUB MATCH: Reselve Park v Loughborough Stu-dents (7.15).

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Cortina Better on upper slopes Passo Totale Dy powdery snow Some artificial snow SWITZERIAND	100% 40% 20%	21.1 10.12 2.12	40 80 20	120 300 100	
DevosExcellent early secson VerbierCrisp dry snow UNITED STATES	75% 40%	3.12 3.12	70 90	160 120	Pert cloud Pert cloud
KillingtonGroomed powder SteamboatPowder/packed powder	65% 95%	9.12 10.12	80 110	150	Cloud/snow
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Call Ski Direct on 01733 33 55 13 Mon - Fr. 35m - 7pm, Sat 55m - 5pm.

DIRE(

Norton are take iothing for gram

3.00: 1. NO PATTERN (D Gelegher) 7-2; 2. Cottel: Chief 9-4 far; 3. Bute Vegue 10-1. 41; na. 11; na. (G L Moore, Epsom), Tote; £4.40; £1.60; £1.70; £2.30; OF: £5.30; CSF; £10.70, Tac: £15.80.

PLUMPTON

1.30: 1. POMME SECRET (C Moude) 92: 2. Avanti Express 11:-10 fav, 3. Ear de Cologne, 20-1. 12: ran. 4, 11. (M. PDe, Weltington). Totas: £4.20: £1.80. £1.10. £4.90. 0F: £4.20. CSF: £8.81. Trio: £26.30. £1.10. £4.90. 92. Plearly Beef 9-2; 3. Summer Wills 9-1: 4. Script £6-1. 18: can. 7-2 fav Minster's Madam (6th). 4, nd. U Fittch-Heyes, Lewes). Totas: £15.60: £2.70. £1.50. £3.10. £2.00. DF: £26.00, CSF: £95.70. Tricast: £806.30. Trio: £163. 30. [par wort, pool of £3.4.57 carned forward to Warnets, 1.40 (bdds).
2.30: 1. AMANCIO (M.A Fitzgerald) 2-9 fav, 2. Robins Pride 5-1; 2. Furry Fox £5-1. 5 can. 10. dar. (Mrs.A Perratt, Puborough). Tota: £1.10; £1.10, £1.30. DF: £1.60. CSF: £1.46.
2.00: 4. MO PATTERN (D Gallesher) 7-2; PLUMPTON

Placepot: £31.50. Quadpot: £12.60. Place 6: £58.69. Place 5: £25.18.

RACING RESULTS 3.30: 1. CARDINAL RURE (R Johnson) 101: 2. Winnow 15-2; 3. Dente's View 11-2.
15 raw, 5-1 fav Sauon Mead (left), 5, 1, (Miss Verytee Wilklams, Hereford), Totec £10.20; 22.70, £2.70, £2.50, DF: £23.80, CSF: £78.08. Theast £430.93. Thro: £132.50. Non Rurner: Victory Gate.
4.00: 1. WINPPERS DELIGHT IM: A Charles-Jones 20-1; 2. Klings Cherry 14-1; 3. Offiver Ductorft 2-1 fav. 12 ran. 4, 1%. IG Charles-Jones, Wantage), Totec £21.30; £4.10, £6.50, £1.20. DF: £172.50. CSF: £225.26. Treast: £742.23. The: £117.40.
4.30: 3. FlAMEE WOOD (8 Powel) £11-40.

> 1,50: 1. STATE OF CAUTION U Farming 3-1 Say, 2. Zorba 4-1; 3. Weet And See 12-1,13 ran. 4, 7. (D Shew). Tate: 56.40; £2.70, £1.80, £2.40, Duel Forecast: £10.10. Computer Straight Forecast: £14.29. Tote This: £14.60. 2.20: 1. SENSE OF PRIORITY (Alex Creaves) 4-6 fax; 2. Myttons Mistake 5-2; 2. Sea Devil 9-2. 4 ran. 2, 3/4. (D Nicholis). Tota: £1.70. DF: £2.00. CSF: £2.51. Non Runner: Sir Silver So..

Runner: Sir Saver Sch. 2.50: 1. PRIMA Sit.K (A Clark) 6-1; 2. Broadstatus Beauty 16-1; 3. Naughty Pistol 9-2. 3 ram. 3-1 tay Desert Invader. 1. 74. M. Ryen). Total: £5.80; £1.10. £1.90. £2.30. DF: £154.50. CSF; £90.28. Tricast E440.62.

2. Master Foodbroker 12-1: 3. Mappingo 33-1, 13 ran. 5-1 jt favs Anglesey Ses View 44th & Stonecuster, Nt. 11. () Noron). Totac £11.80; £3.00, £3.60, £12.60. Dual Forecast: £55.90. CSF: £113.62. Tracest: £3,143.77. Tro: £182.40 (part won, pool of £208.16 camed forward to Warwick 1.40 todate).

3.50: 1 MIRROR POUR SPORT (N Pol 3.50: L MERROR FOUR SPORT (N Pol-lart) 15-2; 2. Bailleborough Boy 11-2; 3. Jock Saya 5-1, 11 mm. 4-1 sv Neon Deon. nk, 8. (M Johnston). Tota: £7-20: £3-60, £1.10. £1.90. DF: £18.80 CSF: £47.07. Tri-cast: £213.73, Tno: £39.30. cast 12:13.73, Inc: 12:30.06E (JWaver)
13-8 fav; 2. Queens Stroßer 12-1; 3. Mono
lady 7-2, 12 ran. 4, 3. (M Johnston). Tete:
13.00; 11.20, 52.10; 61.50, Dual Forecast
£42.10. CSF: £22.72. Tricast: £62.38. Tric.

NOTTHERN SECTION SECOND ROUND
Cardisle v Hull (7.45)
Scunthorpe v Notts County
Wrexbarn v Crewe
SCUTHERN SECTION QUARTER-FINALS
Breefford v Colohester (7.45)
Exister v Petarborough (7.45)
GM VALUDIALL CONFERENCE
Altrhochum v Maccischield (7.45)
Halifar v Bromegrove (7.45)
SPALDING CHALLENGE CUP
QUARTER-GNAL QUARTER-FINAL REPLAY Stalybridge v Morecombe (7.45) Place of: £226.30. Quadpot: £123.70. Place 6: £309.12. Place 5: £156.68. TÉNNÉNTS SCOTTISK CUP

Football

> BASS IRISH CUP Fifth-round replay: Omagh Town v Newry. Town v Newly, LEAGUE OF WALES: Conneh's Quey v Conwy. NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE First Divi-alos: Derven v Trafford; Waine Road v Chad-

Other sports BOWLS: World Indoor Championships (Pre-ING: World Cub meet (Clasgow

3

Rovers

may face battle for

Lara's best too late to save West Indies

Cricket

TONY COZIER reports from Adelaide West Indies 130 and 154-6

Brian Lara at last brought the splendour of his strokeplay to a series that had been diminished without it, but it seemed insufficient to save West Indies from one of their most crushing defeats in the fourth Test.

Lara remained unbeaten on 65 at the end of the third day

wicketkeeper Junior Murray and three fast bowlers remaining as partners, the West Indies still required an unlikely 233 to make Australia hat again with two days remaining.

Lara's previous seven innings have brought him a miserly 86 runs and the last five had all ended in single figures. When he strode on to sunlit Adelaide Oval quarter of an hour before tea the West Indies were already in a hopeless state, with a first-innings deficit of 387 and two second-innings wickets already down for 22. That soon became three for 42.

hander first settled himself before initiating a breathtaking assault on Shane Warne and Michael Bevan, Australia's contrasting wrist spinners who had bemused the West Indians on the first day when they were routed

for 130 and were doing so again. He pulled both the left-armer Bevan and Warne for six and shared his 11 fours between them. For an hour and 40 minutes he and the graceful Carl Hooper lifted the gloom of a onesided match in which the West Indies have been utterly outplayed

quarter hours, the dapper left- italise on their 2-1 series advantage. As the partnership realised %, the inevitability of a huge defeat was irrelevant. Reality was abruptly restored within the final 20 minutes as Hooper, Jimmy Adams and Ian Bishop were dismissed in the final seven overs.

After Australia were eventually all out for 517 half an hour after hinch, labouring 32.3 overs to add 87 to their overnight total, the West Indies second innings endured a frenetic start. Glenn McGrath's second ball spat viciously at Sherwin Campbell and fell back into his leg stump off his body without dis-

lodging a bail. In the next over McGrath had the new left-handed opener, Adrian Griffith, taken in the gully and then Bevan accounted for Shivnarine Chandemaul and Campbell to splendid slip catches by Mark Taylor.

A crowd of 18,000 had been disappointed at the start of the day by the dismissal of home town favourite Greg Blewett for 99. Kept scoreless throughout a testing over from Cameron Cuffy, he sought to push into the off side for the decisive single off the last hall and was bowled off stump. Bevan laboured in comparison over an unheaten 85.

Adelaide Oval scoreboard

Third days (dest indes man loss WHET ROLES - First Innings 130 (M san 4-31, 5 Warre 3-43) AUSTRALIA - First Innings (Overright 434 for 5) G S Bewest b Outly M G Brown not out S Chargement C Taylor o Beers
If C Lare not cell
C L Hoose but Warre
If C Adams - 14 Wengs b Beers
If Bisnop c Boran b Warre
Extres (10 105 w 0 105)
Total (for 6, 54.3 overs) fil A Healey o Lera b Thompson ... S K Warne o Hooper b Blancy Par 1 6 2-22 3 42 4-138 5-146 5-154 G D McGrath b Walsh

Edites (1/2 to 1/5 and 10/20) 41 Total (1/62 & overs) 517 Feb: 1-35 2-78 3-242 1-288 5-288 6-453 To bat 1) R Munay CA Walsh: CE Cully Ring McGrath 17 4 31 1 (nt)5); Elichel 7-475 8-984 9-507 10-517 Bowling: Wash 37 9-6-103-2 (nb5); Bangs 34-6-2-2 (nb11, with Cuff 33-4-116-2 (nb4-wiz); Thompson 16-0-80-1 (with Floorer 31-7-85-2 Adams 8-0-23-0; Charitamout 8.4 16.0; Bevan 15.2-56-3 (nn1); Warns 12.3-2-46-2 Blownf 2-2-00. Devolves: S Randell (Aus) and D A Shephard

Eriksson Football ALAN NIXON

> Blackburn Rovers' plans to secure Sven Goran Eriksson's managerial services next season are being tested by interest from the Italian club Lazio.

> The Swedish coach has signed contract with Rovers stating that he will join them at the end of his contract with Sampdonia in June, but Lazio sacked their Polish coach Zdenek Zemen yesterday after a poor run of results and are expected to make an approach for Eriksson.

He may he persuaded to change his mind as the Lazio job interested him in the past, and sources at Blackhurn have revealed that Eriksson's recent meeting with the Blackburn management have not gone well because of differences of opinion on appointments, signings

and future strategy.
Peter Storrie, West Ham's managing director, is refusing to be tied down by Michael Tabor's deadline for an answer to his offer to buy the club. Tabor has made repeated hids but has been frustrated by a lack of re-sponse from Upton Park. He originally set the deadline for Friday, but yesterday he said from Barbados, where he is on holiday: "If we do not hear within seven days it is going to be too late to do anything about this season. Events will overtake us."

For his part, Storrie said: "The chairman is looking at a range of offers, which will remain confidential," West Ham's problems mounted yesterday when the Football Association asked them for an explanation of Saturday's pitch invasion - the second at Upton Park this season.

Teddy Sheringham, the Tottenham striker, is almost certain to miss England's World Cup qualifier with Italy at Wembley next month after breaking down on his first day back in training since damaging his ankle at the start of the month.

Eric Ca ona has been given a two-game suspension following his yellow card during Manchester United's FA Cup match with Wimbledon on Saturday, He will miss the fifth-round tie against QPR if United win the replay, as well as the Premiership game at Arsenal on 19 February. Robert Steiner is to call an early end to his three-month loan period and return to the Swedish cluh Norrkoping after turning

down a permanent move. Graham Fenton, the Blackburn striker, could be out of action for up to a month after a scan revealed medial ligament damage sustained in a reserve-team game at Birmingham last week.

For the remaining two and a Thorpe the centurion at heart of fray

DEREK PRINGI E New Zealand 390 & 65-3

England 521

Graham Thorpe is a quiet, un-demonstrative man, but there was no denying the outpouring of emotion at Eden Park on Monday, as he scored his third Test century, Removing his helmet, he repeatedly aimed fresh air punches towards his teammates, who applauded him to a

Strangely, for a Test played on a new pitch, it was the fourth successive day that bat dominated ball and Thorpe. Surrey and England's second centurion of the match, was instrumental in taking England above the 500 mark and on to a first-innings lead of 131. Thorpe is the ultimate team man and he proba-hly felt he owed his colleagues a score, not least for the farcical nature of the run-out between himself and John Crawley on the previous afternoon.

"It was a good feeling, espe-cially to contribute to the team." Thorpe admitted after the day's play. "Creepy [Crawley] has been very good about the runout. He just told me to go and score his runs for him.

He was as good as his word and his 119, while more studied than his usual knocks, contained 17 fours and took just over five and a half hours to complete. I felt I had to be patient and occupy the

Thorpe scores his Test hundreds about once every 15 Tests, or every two years, an event whose frequency is akin to the gestation period of the African elephant, and one that ~ had there been a decent crowd present - might have been greeted with almost the same amount of

trumpeting.

He has his detractors, too, and true worth of a Test batsman. then there is little doubt that haps, was that Cork's ensuing

No. 3207. Toesday 28 Januar

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Thorpe is an underperformer. The only problem is that such yardsticks rarely tell the whole story and Thorpe's value, along with such players as Australia's Mark Waugh, would perhaps be better gauged by how often they seize the initiative for their team. Which in Thorpe's case, is probably more often than any of his England team-mates, including

the illustrious Alec Stewart. Look closer and there is little doubt that since the extravagant promise of a debut hundred against Australia, Thorpe has been instrumental in setng up winning positions for England. The team may not have always gone on to win, but Thorpe's urgent sixties and seventies have, as often as not, at least given the bowlers enough time to plot victory, rather than merely hope for it.

Before Monday he had not had a happy winter, and there were murmurs that after a similar period of disillusionment in South Africa last year that he was unhappy at being abroad for long periods. In Zimbahwe, it was a tuation compounded by the recent birth of his son and the sad news of the death of his Surrey team-mate Graham Kersey in a car crash over Christmas.

Touring can be difficult at times," he said. "In Zimbahwe I got some bad news from Surrey and I was also out of form. You can't control form and in the end I got through it. But I'm here now and it's a new series."

It is also a new Test and the day ended well for England, with three New Zealand wickets falling before the close. The extra pressure was provided after Thorpe and Dominic Cork had combined to set up England's hig total with a seventh-wicket stand worth 114. However, it was a stand ended by one of the more hizarre Test dismissals when Thorpe stumbled, slipped and then kicked his stumps after overbalancing while trying to if it is centuries that measure the play a ball from Chris Cairns. Even more surprising, per-

THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD

25 Is unable to get a word of

one's father (2-2-2)

28 Anticipated payment to se-

DOWN

A structure is leading to mo-

Fair fellow abandoning aero-

Outside broadcast picture's

cure new rose, new (8)

Ruler didn't finish dried

torway lawlessness (9)

Football Association

changed Rule 1 (7)

plane journey (5)

unfit to be shown (7)

Order used in Portuguese

Given this lack of success

fellow to come to an end (8) 26 Underground broadcasting?

will take time to stir up trou- 27 Affectedly posh boy meets

(5.10)

fruit (6)

thanks for some music (7)

half-century was only his second in Test cricket, the first having come against the West Indies at Old Trafford in 1995.

On that occasion, Cork played quite magnificently and although there were glimpses of that here, there was a perplexing period either side of lunch - soon after England had taken the lead - when he took an hour to score just a single run.

Afterwards David Lloyd, the England coach, praised the Derhire player's innings, adding that he felt it was time Cork "moved on from being a strike bowler and sometime all-rounder to a genuine all-rounder".

It took a brilliant diving catch by Bryan Young to dismiss Cork after he had swatted Danny Morrison's long-hop high over the fielder's head at midwicket. At that point, the England tail took the opportunity to outperform its usual rabbit rating as Phil Tufnell and Alan Mulially

added 43 for the last wicket, a

feat that suggested the pitch at least had surpassed all expectations of its durability. However, it is remarkable how a few widening cracks can help persuade a bowler to try his luck, which is broadly what it took to dismiss Young after Nasser Hussain, hovering at

fine gully, had parried the initial

catch offered by the batt

stinging drive. With Mullally rested after another wayward opening spell, it was Darren Gough's turn to run uphill into the wind, an encumbrance that appeared to help his inswinging yorker, which for the second time in the match caused the tall Blair Pocock to

be leg before. But if getting both openers was a bonus, the dismissal of Stephen Fleming, New Zealand's century-maker in the first innings, was a huge blow to the home side. It also gave Tufnell his first wicket of the match, an occasion someone with a knapsack celebrated by invading the pitch and mooning at the 'Barmy Army'.

Moday's Solution

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8 An attempt to follow a num-

quired by letter (8)

of colts? (8)

storm (9)

static within (8)

ber of commandments re-

Awfully thin, smug. supplier

14 One's off a worker who's ec-

16 Provide protective coat as

lvan's got to be out in a

17 Science not initially studied

19 One's regularly paid a gratu-

21 Eat, about ten, cooked stuff

22 Money secures female help

in leather production (6)

24 Copper will need rest having

worked from 2 to 8? (5)

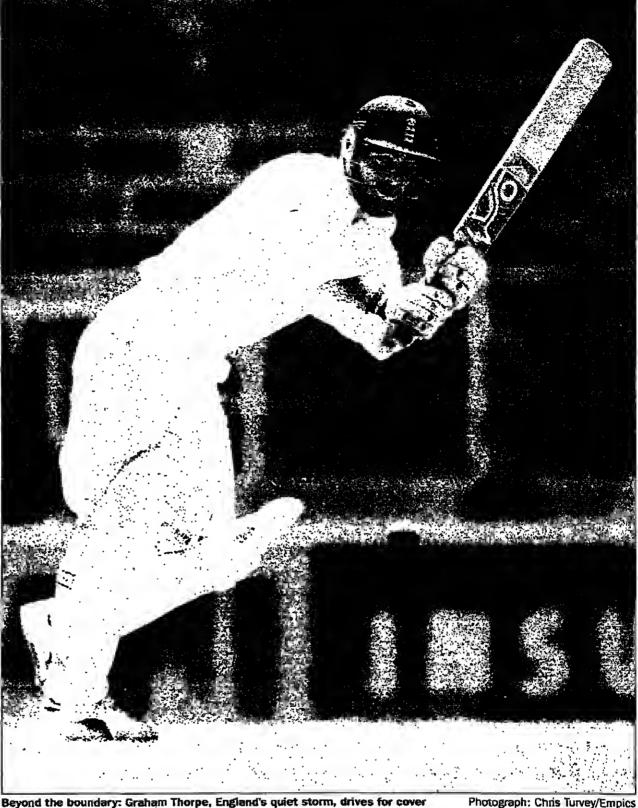
25 About to produce new for-

mulation of belief [5]

suitable for one's tooth (7)

ity to get entry in dispatch

by a learner for examination



Beyond the boundary: Graham Thorpe, England's quiet storm, drives for cover

,	
	England won toss
	NEW ZEALAND - First trokets 890 (BA
	Pocock 70, S P Flemming 129, C L Coms 61;
	11 Gough 4-91).
	ENGLAND - First lonings
	(Overnight: 366 for 8)
	N V Kright fow b Doub
	(31 min. 25 pais, 1 tour)
	"M A American c and b Patel83
	(272 min, 213 balls, 11 fours)
'1	tA I Stewart c and b Douli
1	(363 min. 277 batts, 23 fours, 1 str)
1	N Hussam c Fleming & Patel
II .	j25 mm, 22 balls. 1 four)
l (G P Thorpe fut wat a Cents
	1339 min, 245 belts, 17 fours!
	JP Orawley run out (Doull-Germon)14
	161 mh, 43 balls, 1 lour)
1	C White the b Vaughan
1	Il G Cork c Young b Morrison
	(236 min, 192 bats, 6 fours, 1 sb)
1	Il Gough & German & Marrison2
1	(28 mm, 19 balls)
4	A II Mulishy c Germon b Momson21
11	(84 min. 40 balls, 2 tours)
H	PCR Tufnel not out
Ш	(55 min, 49 balls, 2 fours)
il	Extras (02 b12 w2 nb2)
	Tabel (704 mls 407 4 mass) 574

Pall: 1-18 (Krught) 2-200 (Atherton) 3-222 (Hussan) 4-304 (Stawart) 5-339 (Crawley)

Eden Park scoreboard 6-339 (Write) 7-453 (Thorpet 8-471 (Gough) 9-478 (Ooth 10-521 Anulaly). Souting Markson 24.4-4-104-3 (m3) (4-1.10-0, 4-1-17-0, 5-2-15-0, 3-0-23-0, 3-0-22-0, 5-0-16-2, 0, 4-0-2-1); Doull 38-18-18-2 (w1) 18-4-15-1, 4-0-21-0, 7-2-14-0, 3-1-14-0, 8-1-25-1, 6-2-14-0, 3-0-15-0); Calmis 30-3-103-2 (w1) (6-0-36-0, 4-1-14-0, 7-1-16-0, 3-0-16-0, 8-1-15-1, 2-0-6-0); Astin 14-3-33-0 (4-18-0, 5-1-11-0, 2-1-2-0, 3-0-12-0); Vangtian 38-10-67-2 (8-1-14-0, 5-0-15-0, 2-1-2-0, 6-2-10-1, 8-2-4-0, 8-3-6-0, 3-1-4-0); Pirtin 44-10-82-2 (21-6-31-2, 8-1-33-0, 4-1-3-0, 7-1-11-0, 4-1-3-0). Programs Second day; Tex: 39-1 (Abbr.) 14-0): Pertal 44-Ju-Sz-2 (21-0-31-2, 8-1-33-4, 4-1-3-0, 7-1-11-0, 4-1-3-0, Programs: Second day; Feet 39-1 (Abreton 18, Stevent 13) 11 overs. 50: 67 mm, 15:2 overs. 100: 116 min, 29:2 overs. 8ed left stopped globy at 5.1 jum at 12-3-1 (Abreton 48, Stevent 67) 38 overs. Pay attondent at 5.50pm. Third day; 150: 182 min, 46 overs. Lancts: 159: 1 Waterton 79: Stevent 104) 88 overs. 200: 270 min, 70.1 overs. New ball taken efter 88.2 overs. 3 (24)-3, 250 in 352 min, 90.1 overs. Test: 285-3 (Stevent 155, Thorpo 18) 97 overs. 300: 393 min, 99 overs. 350 in 479 min, 119.4 overs. Close: 356-6 (Thorpo 57, Dork 16) 126 overs. Fourth day; 400: 550 min, 138.5 overs. Lancts: 448-6 (Thorpo 117, Cork 38) 157 overs. 450: 631 min, 159.1 overs. 500: 727 min, 182 overs. Innings closed 3.22pm.

Atheritoria 50: 147 mm, 117 belia, 8 fours, Stawert's 50: 78 mm, 57 belis, 7 fours, 1 str. 100: 215 mm, 151 belis, 14 fours, 1 str. 150: 330 mm, 254 belis, 20 fours, 1 str. 150: 330 mm, 254 belis, 20 fours, 1 str. 150: 297 mm, 211 belis, 5 fours, 100: 297 mm, 211 belis, 15 fours, Corif's 50: 201 mm, 162 belis, 6 fours, 1 str. Fig. 2 Cork 7-3-17-1; Molladly 7-4-5-0; White 3-1-6-0 (rb1); Gough 7-1-16-1 (rb2); Turnell 5-1-12-1 (rb1) (one spet

NEW ZEALAND - Second lunings 8 A Pococi, lbw b Gough Falt: 1-17 Nourge 2-28 (Pocock) 3-47 (Reming).

Umpires: S A Bucknor and R S Dunne. TV Replay Umpire: [] 8 Crowe. Martch Referee: P J P Burge.

Graf inquiries continue

Tennis

father. Peter, said yesterday that the investigation of Graf ter Graf received on Friday herself, shelved during her father's trial, would now proceed more quickly. He also confirmed reports that he is also examining evidence to see if criminal investigations should be opened against some of the

player's sponsors. Graf appeared at a news conference before the Pan Pacific Women's Open in Tokyo today, but declined to answer reporters' questions about her father's conviction for tax evasion. Graf looked weary after a and being an accessory. Proseflight from Australia but insist- cutors had asked that Graf be

cd she was in good shape. "My condition is pretty good, she said. "I'm fit and ready to play." The German prosecutor, Hustate is appealing against the length of Peter Graf's sentence. "Before the working day higher court." which takes several weeks just to get the documents to the higher court.

The prosecutor of Steffi Graf's ends, the appeal of the three-Chief Judge Joachim Plass, year, nine-month sentence Pcwho presided over the trial, had recommended the investigation of Steffi Graf be dropped, will be on its way to the Federal Appeals Court in Karlsruhe." saying there was no evidence Jobski said. she had played "an active part" Graf, 58, was convicted of in the tax evasion. evading DM12m (£4.6m) in But Johski said the probe of taxes on his daughter's earnings

Steffi Graf had only ceased temporarily, but would now be handled as quickly as possible. Jobski did not specify the sponsors he was looking at, but German news reports named Adidas, Dunlop and Sucumileh. a German milk products com-

The reports said the compa-

nies were suspected of showing willingness to route payments for Steffi Graf to her father's mailbox account in the Netherlands to hide them from Ger-

bert Jobski, also said that the during the appeal process, man tax authorities, Chablished by New paper Publishing PLC, I Canada Square, Canary Whart, London E14 5DL, and printed at Mirror Colour Point, Sa Back roses available from Historic Newspapers, (1) 988 840(70) Torsin Minuse 1997 Registred as a new paper with the Post Office

from 1989-1993, and attempting

to evade paying another DM3m.

pealing against the 30-month

sentence given to Joachim

Eckardi. the former Graf fam-

ily tax adviser, who was con-

victed of attempted tax evasion

sentenced to six years and nine

months in prison, and Eckardt

to four years and nine months.

Both men remain free on bail

The prosecutor is also ap-

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